

ine M14 stock; a Greek HK-91 clone with thumbhole stock; and a genuine German HK-91 with three alternate stocks: collapsible, rigid, and aftermarket long-pull rigid with bipod. All of these featured chromed bores and chambers as standard equipment.

We put a \$1,500 10X Leupold sniper scope in genuine Brookfield scope mount (\$250 without rings) onto the Winchester-barreled Polytech M14S custom. We put a 2-8X Burris in the fine and very easily installed S&K mount onto the M1A Springfield. We mounted a Leatherwood 8X scope on solid-mount Weaver-type base onto the new Argentine FAL. We put the British L2A2 SUIT scope (about 4X) with its original British quick-detach mount onto the L1A1 rifle. We fitted the German HK-91 version with a tritium front-sight insert.

To compare the products, we test-fired all the rifles with many rounds of commonly available surplus and current factory ammo and, most important, shot all six rifles with some of the best target ammunition available, Federal's Gold Medal Match, with 168-grain hollow-point boattail bullets.

Here's what we thought about each one based on our results:

FAL/L1A1

Our recommendation: The L1A1, equipped as we've described it below, is a very good alternative to the M1A Springfield, and may be less costly. The only problem here is that you may not find one, and the SUIT scopes are starting to get rare too. We'd rate it just behind the Springfield M1A on today's market.

The L1A1 clones are commonly seen at gun shows, sometimes with pistol-grip stocks and flash hid-ers. Most of them are made up of surplus British parts on new semiauto-

FAL (top), L1A1 (bottom)

Retail Price...\$500-\$1,000



SPECIFICATIONS

METAL FINISH	Black	BIPOD COST	\$100
WEIGHT (EMPTY)	9.6 lbs.	MAGAZINE CAPACITY ...	5-20 rds.
SIGHT RADIUS	21.8 in.	CARRY SLING	Web
OVERALL LENGTH	45.5 in.	STOCK	Plastic or Wood
LENGTH (COLLAPSED)	NA	PISTOL GRIP	Yes
CARRY HANDLE	Integral	STOCK TYPE	Metal Folding

Our Recommendation: Good overall operation and less expensive than the M1A.



The L1A1 shines in any weather with its SUIT scope. The SUIT, or Trilux, or L2A2 scope is today sold without the original green radiating element that illuminated the reticle. However, a battery unit is available to light the inverted post red, for better visibility in marginal light. This efficient combination rated very close to the M1A in our tests. This one is built on the Enterprise receiver.

only actions. The price varies from less than \$500 for a thumbhole version up to more than \$1,000 for a pistol-grip version with flash hider. One of the best receivers, and one of the first, is the Enterprise version. Rifles built on that action seem to be pretty good, but remember, all of today's L1A1's are made

of used parts, and the overall quality of the rifle depends on the quality of its components. The original pistol grip of the L1A1 permits very easy access to the safety. This rifle will generally weigh less than a comparable M1A. Our test version weighs a half-pound less than our M14 custom, which itself is lighter