

BUYER'S GUIDE **OVER 500 GUNS!** All Models ■ Prices ■ Options

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF AUTOPISTOLS™

2007

**8 NEW/PROVEN
.45ACPs TESTED**

9MM ROUNDUP
S&W, SIG SAUER
Springfield
& More

**PAIR OF
ACES!**

- ▶ **HK USP 40
LEM COMBAT**
- ▶ **HK USP 45
TACTICAL SA**

BEST CONCEALED CARRY
.45ACP ■ .40S&W ■ 9MM

CUSTOM COMBAT HANDGUNS
YOUR OWN PERSONAL MASTERPIECE

FAVORITE HOLSTERS & CARRY RIGS

16 GUNS TESTED

- SIG SAUER P226 9MM ■ Smith & Wesson 3913TSW 9MM
- C&S Colt Commander .45ACP ■ Ruger P90 .45ACP
- Springfield EMP 9MM ■ Taurus PT1911B .45ACP ■ More!

HARRIS OUTDOOR GROUP PRESENTS #40

\$9.95 \$10.95 CAN

0 9281 02063 9 4 0 >

GUN TEST

COBRA PATRIOT .45ACP

Big bore mini-gun is compact, reliable, accurate and priced right!

By Paul Markel

Being robbed once was all that it took to convince a Florida jewelry storeowner to buy a gun. The man went out and purchased a semi-automatic pistol, then began a regular practice of carrying it over his right hip while working in the store.

Some time later a suspicious man entered his store. After browsing for a few moments the man turned and pulled a gun from his waistband. The storeowner reached for his own pistol and drew it. Pressing the trigger with an adrenaline-pumped finger, the storeowner's gun remained silent. The criminal emptied his revolver at the owner as fast as he could pull the trigger.

Not understanding why his gun would not fire, the man retreated into the back room and collapsed with numerous gunshot wounds. Seeing his prey as helpless, the robber walked up, aimed at the man's head and squeezed the trigger. Mercifully, the robber had shot his gun dry. With no more ammunition, the robber fled the store. The owner was luckier than most and lived to tell the story. The brief few seconds of violent chaos were recorded by the store's surveillance camera.

What went wrong? Why didn't the gun fire? It turned out that the firearm and ammunition were both in perfect working order. The semi-automatic pistol had a manual safety lever. During the panic/adrenaline rush of the deadly attack the storeowner did not take it off. His intentions were good. He had taken the time to purchase a firearm and he was carrying it, but he was missing one key ingredient: training.

I first became aware of this incident through one of the many real-life crime shows on cable television. The surveillance video was shown several times and the storeowner was interviewed. While I was considering the above incident I received the Cobra Patriot .45ACP pistol. This seemed like an opportune moment to discuss the hardware and training that must go into a legitimate self-defense program.

Gun Details

The Patriot .45ACP pistol from Cobra Enterprises is a double-action-only semi-automatic pistol. My sample had a stainless steel slide atop a black polymer frame. Black Melonite coating is also available as a slide finish. Checking is molded into the grip and

backstrap of the frame. Finger grooves are found on the frontstrap.

As for specifications, the pistol has a single-stack magazine that holds 6 rounds of .45ACP ammunition. The gun is relatively compact as the slide is 6 inches long, the frame is 4.74 inches high and the maximum width is only an inch. The barrel is also compact at 3.3 inches.

Atop the slide you will find a rudimentary set of fixed sights. These are perfectly functional for the task the pistol is expected to perform. As for controls, aside from the DAO trigger, the only other control is the magazine release button found on the left side of the frame in the normal position. The button is slightly recessed so accidentally activating it would be difficult.

The Cobra Patriot pistol was made with economy in mind. Therefore, you will not find some of the items you would expect on more expensive pistols. There is no slide stop and the pistol does not lock back on an empty magazine. One single magazine is provided with each pistol, though additional magazines are available for purchase.

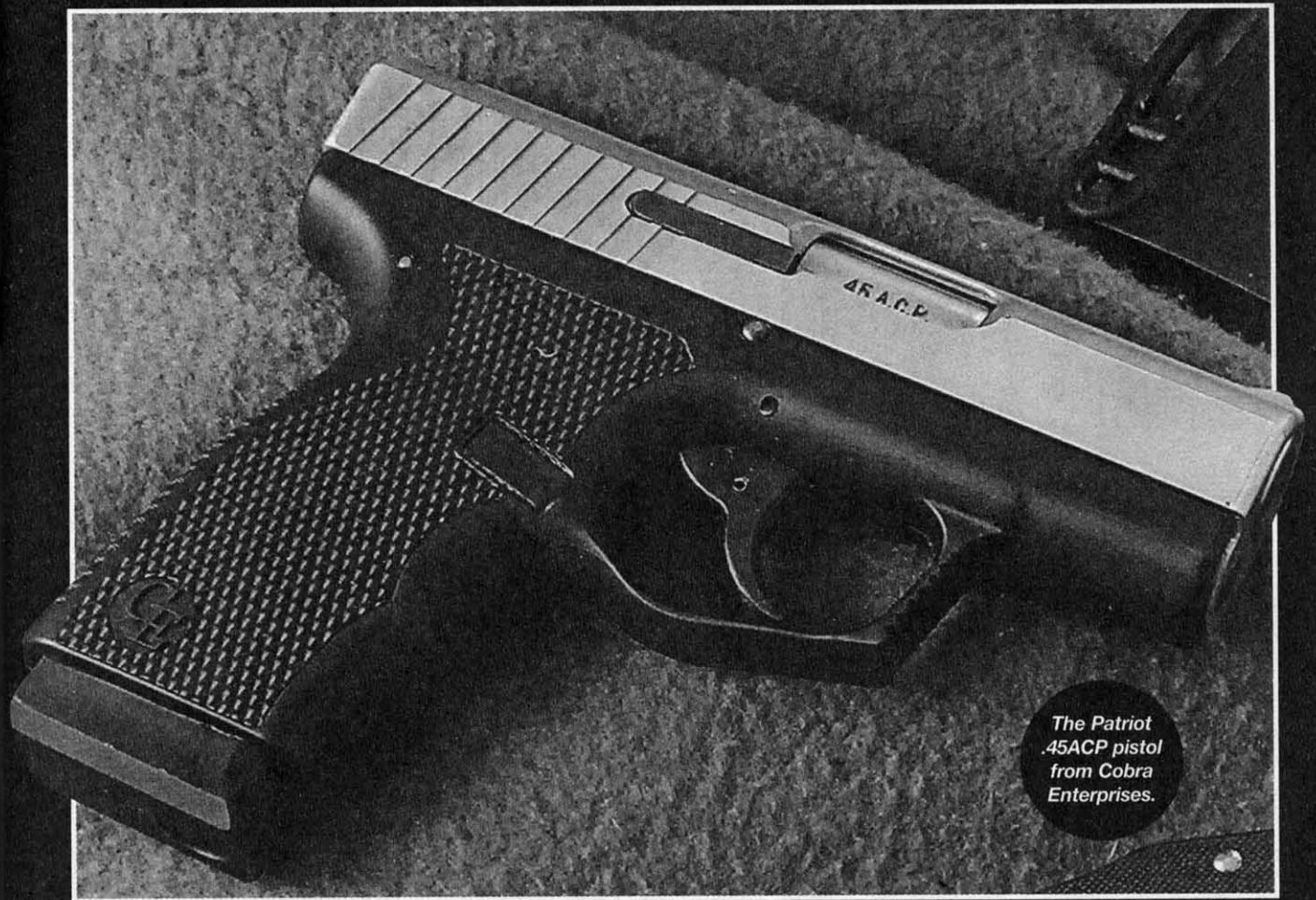
Range Time

This review was my first ever experience with Cobra pistols and I was indeed curious to see how the Patriot .45 would perform. For test ammunition I took along a variety including a JHP load from Black Hills, the new DPX load from CorBon, a frangible hollowpoint from International Cartridge Corporation, and lastly, some practice ammunition from Winchester's USA brand.

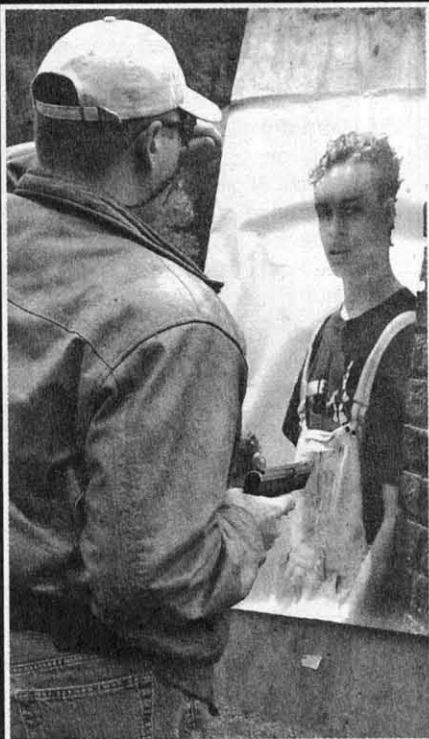
I opened the testing session with a magazine full of the Winchester USA



.45ACP ammunition from Black Hills, CorBon, ICC, and Winchester.



The Patriot
.45ACP pistol
from Cobra
Enterprises.



Contact distance shooting is both realistic and practical.



You won't always be standing at the ready when trouble comes. Practical training includes starting from a seated position.