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The Valmet Sniper M86 was Finland's first proper sniper rifle, created by Valmet. Its design laid the groundwork for Sako's TRG rifles after they merged in 1986. Only a small number of these rifles were produced in 1987 due to the merger. Valmet had previously tried to develop a semi-automatic sniper rifle called the TAK in the 1970s, but it failed. However, some improvements from this project were incorporated into their other rifles. In the early 1980s, Finland's Defence Forces searched for a new sniper rifle for the 7.62×53mmR cartridge. No commercial rifle met their needs without modifications, and Sako and Tikkakoski weren't interested in developing one using this cartridge. As a result, they used a heavily modified Mosin-Nagant construction for the TKIV 85. Meanwhile, Valmet started designing its own sniper rifle from scratch, also recommended by Major Kari Aro. Their initial aim was to produce a 7.62×53R sniper rifle with .300 Winchester Magnum and other magnum options planned later. However, magazine issues led them to use a modified Lahti-Saloranta M/26 magazine for the 7.62×53R version. The trial rifle proved accurate, and a small batch was produced for civilians before the merger. These rifles didn't yet incorporate all developed features, such as an aluminium bedding block with a multi-calibre patent (Finnish patent № 72807). This idea later influenced Pirkan Ase's Lynx TD12 and TD15 rifles, a Sako 85 modification, and Sako's M85 Exige. The Valmet Sniper M86 featured a forged receiver with a 60° rotating bolt that locks into three lugs. The large rimmed cartridges like the 7.62×53mmR can be used, and it can be disassembled without tools. The cocking indicator is located at the rear of the bolt. Its 720 mm cold hammer forged steel barrel was chambered for various calibres. Valmet's Sniper M86 had a multi-calibre patent (Finnish patent № 72807), allowing quick changes to barrelled actions in different calibres using an aluminium bedding block. This concept influenced other rifles, including the Sako 85 and Pirkan Ase's Lynx TD12 and TD15. The Valmet M86 sniper rifle features a unique combination of design elements and adjustable trigger mechanisms. ===== The M86 rifle boasts a distinctive profile, with four rifling grooves and a twist rate of 270 mm (1:11"), threaded to the receiver for optimal performance. Standing at 1210 mm in length and 170 mm in height without scope, this rifle is built for precision and reliability. Valmet guarantees an impressive accuracy of 0.7 MOA at 100 metres and 1.0 MOA at 500 metres, thanks to its two-stage trigger mechanism inspired by Valmet Suomen Leijona target/competition rifles. This mechanism allows for adjustable force settings between 0.7 and 2.0 kg (7 and 20 N), ensuring a tailored fit for each user. The M86 rifle comes equipped with both wooden and fibreglass stocks, allowing users to adjust the length of pull, stock height, and cheek piece position with ease. An internal aluminium bedding block ensures a secure attachment to the receiver, eliminating the need for additional bedding material. A bipod with adjustable cant, traverse, and tilt is attached to the ultimate front end of the stock, while a sling mount on the underside provides a secure connection point. The competition variant lacks a magazine well, whereas the production model features a 5 or 9 round double stack double feed box magazine. The sniper variant boasts a single chamber muzzle brake for enhanced accuracy and stability, while the hunting version sports a bare muzzle. Additionally, the Valmet Sniper M86 is available in various configurations, including the Valmet 7.62 Kiv 85 prototype version and the M89 variant with an enhanced grip mold. References include Rifles of the World by John Walter, published in 2006. tactical rifle market was really startin to get its act together and McMillan was one of the big players in the game, not just because they had a factory that made stock but also because they build high end custom rifles. Harris Gun Works was a subsidiary of McMillan that started makin there own line of rifles but unfortunately they went out of busines but when they were makin there custom rifles they had a good rep for makin high quality tactical rifles. One of the things thats still remembered about Harris is when they made ther M-86 tactical rifle and it got adopted by US Navy SEALs and some other US Army Special Forces Groups. The M-86 was a pretty big deal because it used McMillan stock and they had alot of other standard models that you could get with different options. The M-86 was also origilly used by the US Navy to test out there A191 300 Win Mag 190gr ammo that helped start this revolution in rifle technology. The story goes that the M-86 was what was use by the US Navy to develop this ammo. Filled under: Rifle Review Tags: classic, harris Thanks to ROUNTREE for all the images on this page! Caliber: .308.30-06.300 Win Mag Magazine:443 Weight:11 1/4lbs11 1/2 lbs11 1/2 lbs Length:43 1/2"43 1/2"43 1/2" Barrel:McMillan match-grade, heavy contour. Stock:McMillan fiberglass; adjustable for length; recoil pad. Features:McMillan repeating action, bipod. Price:\$1895.00 Also available in .300 Phoenix upon request Harris gun works is a break off from McMillan and they continue to make high quality firearms.The McMillan M86, now rebranded as the Harris M86, is a bolt-action sniper rifle designed specifically for military and security forces. Its primary function is to deliver lethal firepower at long ranges in various environments. The rifle was initially adopted by the US Navy SEALs and Delta Force special forces units, with approximately 460 systems allocated for these groups. The Harris / McMillan M86 rifle is chambered to fire the .300 Winchester Magnum cartridge and the .338 Lapua Magnum cartridge. ===== Contractor(s): Harris Gunworks LCC / McMillan - USA Design Qualities: Some designs are single-minded in their approach, whilst others offer a more versatile solution. Recognition of quality is a matter of time, some designs stand strong while others fall by the wayside. Disclaimer | Privacy Policy | Cookies The name Military Factory and its logo are registered trademarks protected by U.S. intellectual property laws. The content on this website is for historical and entertainment value only and should not be used for hardware restoration or operation. We do not sell any of the items shown on this site. Inquiries can be directed to militaryfactory AT gmail.com. 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