

**Official 500 and 1,000 yard World Records
for Pistol
March 28-29, 2014 NRA Whittington Center
1000 yard Rifle Range**



View from the 1000 yard pistol position. Note aiming stake in foreground. The target is the right beige one just below the green trees to the left of the stake.

First I would like to thank the assistance of Soldier of Fortune personnel at the shoot. Shooting for dope, Jerry and Harry were very helpful in spotting impacts in conjunction with Randall Crumrine spotting. The math computations for this distance given by two ranging programs failed to indicate the elevation requirements and it was necessary to use all eyes to find and adjust impacts for dope. Unknown at the time was the butts were 30 feet higher than the firing line.

Let me say that we are shooting fixed sight pistol with 5" barrel. A 1911 A2®. There is a major difference in our multi-patented firearm. Its sights are different and so are the ranges we demand of it. Sure the distance of 1,000 yards is not practical but do we not stretch our limits in rifle and pistol? We only know what those limits are by trying our skill and devices of quality to reach those limits. Is 1,000 yards it for a .45 acp? Well with fixed sights mine surely is. I challenge you however to try further with something faster.

1000 yard record March 29, 2014 report:

The pistol was a well used (excess of 14,000 rds +P spent since 2011 then setting world record at 600 yards and repeated again at Whittington Center in 2012) Lippard (Leopard) model Combat NCO 1911 A2. Conditions for shooting would be considered, adverse. Heavy wind, full flag 25 mph++. Sometimes opposing directions at the 500 and 1,000. Poor to no radio communications with the butts. Wind drift plus gusting winds at 25-30 mph. On the line as spotter was Randall Crumrine. He doubled also score keeper on the line. Sgt. Steve Davis (USMC) was butts official range officer with witness Mrs. Connie Lippard. Factory standard loaded ammunition was provided by CWO Charles Henderson, USMC ret. 10 rounds were called for record using Buffalo Bore .45acp +P 230gr JHP. 10 rounds were fired. The cone of fire for all 10 rounds fired was approximately 8 feet. One hit was recorded. A score of 7/100 the record. It was adjusted for 1000 yard ring placement off of the smaller 600 yard rifle target that was used. Witnessed by Soldier of Fortune Magazine Dale Fields and SSgt Harry Claflin, USMC ret., and the aforementioned team.



Sgt. Karl C. Lippard claims 1,000 yard world record for pistol caliber .45acp 230gr. +P (M1911 Ball equivalent) with a fixed non-adjustable sight, 5" barrel, standard issue, Combat NCO 1911 A2 pistol. Shot March 28, 2014 at Raton, New Mexico at the Whittington Center 1,000 yard rifle range. Score: 7/100.

As related before firing the 1,000 yard, the shoot was for technical information. That I was not optimistic of a result given the conditions on the field, the performance of ammunition at that range, the new sighting system method of Lippard for the distance demonstrated, the quality of the shooter, and lastly the performance of the used Combat NCO M1911 A2 pistol of choice. What has been learned is that in spite of heavy +P use the M1911 A2 pistol has out performed any pistol on record. It has consistently performed at great range where no pistol has performed before; and under adverse conditions experienced in combat.

500 yard record March 29, 2014 report:

On the 500 yard record conditions were worse. **Sgt. Steve Davis** of Larkspur, CO, **Randall Crumrine** of Denver, and myself shot for record in a 25 mph ++ wind at the butts and a quartering wind at 5 o'clock of about 35 mph++ on the line. Steve and Randall were new to 500 yard shooting with a pistol and shot well under adverse conditions. I shot for windage information for all. Three personally owned Combat NCO's were used. Randall shot first with # 55. A zero score after real difficult shooting. Steve followed second shooting #53 well with 6 reported hits of 4 fours, 1 five and 1 six for a score of 27/100. Karl pulled up the rear with #51 and shot two 9's, two 8's, two 6's, two 4's and two misses in heavy wind for **a score of 54/100**. SSgt. Harry Claflin, was official butts officer scoring, with Randall Crumrine of Denver, CO pulling, with Mrs. Connie Lippard witness. Line officer and spotter for me was Sgt. Steve Davis.

Sgt. Davis shot Black Hills 45acp +P 230gr +P JHP, Randall Crumrine shot Fiocchi 230 FMJ +P. Sgt. Lippard shot Buffalo Bore .45 acp 230gr JHP (M1911 Ball equivalent 950 fps chrono) The object was to shoot ammunition in keeping with the M1911 .45 acp +P to discover the true capability of it at maximum range. We know 600 yards to be maximum distance for cover fire but have demonstrated accuracy in qualified hands at this and even 1,000 yards. The 500 yard distance we are getting back to good accuracy. Once back further to 400 yards we expect to be comfortable shooting very good groups.



Lippard 500 yard record target 54/100 NCO pistol .45 ACP +P

Sgt. Karl C. Lippard claims the 500 yard world record for pistol caliber .45 acp 230gr. +P (M1911 Ball equivalent) with fixed non-adjustable sights, 5" barrel, standard issue, model Combat NCO 1911 A2. Shot on March 29, 2014 at Raton, New Mexico at the Whittington Center 1,000 yard rifle range. Score: 54/100. The second 9 is hidden by touching holes. Target used was a NRA 500 yard rifle.

The Combat NCO® model T-1 (Tactical One), 1911 A2® now claims world record of the 500, 600 and 1,000 yard distances for pistol. The demonstration was to confirm that M1911 A2 pistol can be shot under all conditions, at any range effectively; even at 1,000 yards. It was also another good day for the Marine Corps and its old shooters.

Technical Information on the Shoot

The Whittington rifle ranges were closed to shooting in March of 2014. The 1,000 yard rifle range large target numbers had been removed. Heavy machinery was being used to redo the butts, shooting line and facilities. I wish to thank Mike White the manager at Whittington for shutting down construction for several days in the butts allowing us to shoot for records. Also for leaving up target number markers 47-50 this can be seen faintly on the skyline of the 1,000 yard picture. Mr. White had the heavy machinery moved to the left of our fire.

Unit March 28th, 2014 I had never shot the 1,000 yard with pistol nor the 1,000 yard line at Whittington. The plan was to set three 500 yard targets in numbers 47-49 for three of us to shoot for record at that distance. Set another 600 yard target in target number 50 for Karl Lippard to shoot standing offhand for record; make up targets and put in carriages for target numbers 58 and 60 to shoot on from the 1,000 yards. 1,000 yard targets full size could not be found and no centers could be used for a record attempt. Therefore a full size 600 yard target was selected. The entire target surface must be covered whereby the verification of the target itself could not be questioned. To quote master instructor George Wright who furnished the targets, "You won't be able to see the bull's-eye anyway so it won't make a difference the target size." True statement that. (And I don't think anyone figured I would HIT the target so the scoring rings not being the same wouldn't matter.)

The issues presented were, if I shot far left than planned would I hit the target building near target marker 46. And also the bull dower parked next to it. So given the wind and lack of experience for the 1,000 attempt, we moved to shoot targets further right. And as they say, "Karl never shoots far to the right" were not concerned with the target shed near target 68.

The second issue is one of bullet drift. We know from computer aids that an estimated 16-18 feet of left twist bullet drift would occur at 1,000 yards. With target markers removed for construction there was no reference to determine what 16 ft. would look like at that distance. I decided to raise two targets one target apart to estimate what that distance looked like. Targets being 6 foot square and about 2 feet between them, we could add from 3 ft. center to edge, plus 2 ft. space, a blank 6 ft. target carrier, another 2 ft. space and 3 ft. to the next target center equaling 16 feet. Therefore if I shot on target 68 and the drift was greater we could on the firing line estimate what that difference was. (Also stay away from the target shed which we thought possible to hit if we shot on targets further left.)

That issue resolved, we come to the problem of wind. I estimated it to be full flag plus; maybe 30-35 mph. More at times. Therefore if I had that wind from 9 o'clock the drift would be 16-17 feet. (Funny math) Or about the same as estimated bullet drift. So shooting directly high over the target in a 32 mph wind should produce a round on target if the estimate of both values was correct. And theoretically, we would be looking at a confirmed 32 mph wind. Higher if the drift was greater but the effect would be the same. The actual result confirmed on the target score sheet. We successfully bracketed the target, even with human error added in.

A note here on the wind so we are on the same page of understanding; shown below is our NCO range box that weighs 13 lbs. In it was a spotting scope and two additional Combat NCO's that weigh 6 lbs. total. The wind blew the unattended box off the table. THAT, is a 35 mph wind plus wind.



The 1,000 yard line setup included three spotting scopes located left, right and shooting box of the shooter. This 21 lb. shooting box was blown off the table from the cross wind! Note too the pistol elevation for this distance. About 12 degrees.

The next issue was how to shoot this. I had a long held theory that a pistol could be shot at extended range using an aiming stake. That means if one drove a stake into the ground a known distance from the muzzle, raised the sights to a mathematical height above the level, he could theoretically shoot any given distance the chosen bullet will carry with accuracy. Not been done before and certainly not for record, we applied that method here for the first time and achieved success. There was a slight problem however; the wind bent the aluminum 7 foot rod like a whip to the right. A steady height for hold estimation was difficult. Buffeting on the shooting bench was also problematic.

Without a wind meter for this shoot we relied on a regulation range flag. We set one on the 1,000, and 500 yard lines. We had to stop for five minutes around round 5 for the wind to lie back down to 30 mph as it was gusting then to 40 mph. And when the 1,000 yard line flag reversed direction compared to the 500 yard, I paused as well. A flag like it I had not seen since many years ago on Camp Mathews Range in California back in 1963. You must always check the wind before you shoot. Feel it on your face, check it on the 500 and match it to the 1,000. When you have matching flags you shoot. If you don't have it you either wait, or adjust. If you have the skill, you will be successful.

The end result was a success. Even on a calm day if we are able to bracket a 6 foot square target like this at 1,000 yards, I would take it! Now one can say; “what IS a score of seven?” Big deal right? Well walk up to the line at 1,000 yards, try and find your target, set up your fixed sight pistol, open a box of store bought ammo, figure out a system to shoot that far, kiss the cold wind and grab your pistol with winter gloves on, call 10 rounds for record at a distance neither you nor anyone before you has shot with pistol....and look again at this score. A barrier has been broken that may never be witnessed again. We put down a distance in which no man will stand in front of a Combat NCO 1911 A2®. We did it with style; took what came in conditions; and the largely Marine Corps team took home the 500 and 1,000 yard world records.



Sgt. Karl Lippard, Randall Crumrine, Sgt. Steve Davis, SSgt. Harry Claffin and Dale Fields. (Connie Lippard taking the picture) The 500 and 1,000 yard World Record Team, Whittington Center 2014