



Ask the man who owns one ...

4541 N.W. 133rd STREET  
OPA LOCKA, FL 33054

# FRANCHI 12 GAUGE PUMP/SEMIAUTOMATIC SHOTGUN

# SPAS 12



# HONESTLY NOW...

have you read this Owner's Manual?

# 1 HOW TO USE THE SAFETIES

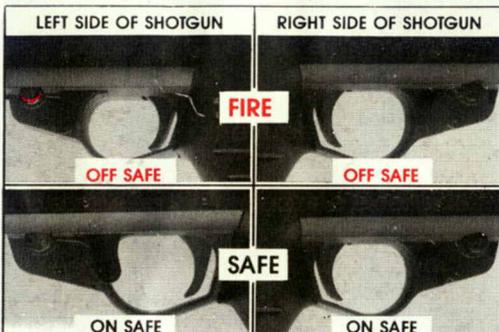
There are 2 safeties on your SPAS 12.

1. **Cross-bolt safety** (for general use)
2. **Quick employment safety** (for competition use, and for tactical situations)

Use one or both of them at all times. Do not take off both safeties until the moment of firing, to help protect against accidental firing and possible injury or death of yourself or others.

## THE CROSS-BOLT SAFETY

This large button is in front of the trigger. Push it to the **LEFT TO FIRE** and to the **RIGHT FOR "ON SAFE"**. When it is "off safe" you can see a red band on the left side of the safety. When it is "on safe" the red band is inside the trigger guard where you cannot see it. It is your main safety, blocking the hammer. Use it until ready to fire or until switching over to the quick employment safety.



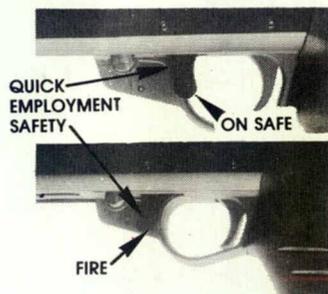
## WARNING

The shotgun will be **LOADED AND COCKED** before either safety can be put "ON SAFE". When loading use **EXTREME CAUTION**, keep finger off trigger, and **PUT ONE OR BOTH SAFETIES "ON SAFE" IMMEDIATELY**.

The cross-bolt safety should only be engaged when the SPAS 12 is cocked. **With bolt closed and hammer UNCOCKED**, engaging the cross-bolt safety prevents opening the bolt and cocking the gun.

## THE QUICK EMPLOYMENT SAFETY

This flat blade on the left side of the trigger guard is **FORWARD TO FIRE** and **BACK FOR "ON SAFE"**.



It disconnects the trigger. It can be moved "off safe" very quickly with the trigger finger. It provides safety even when instant readiness is needed. You can have it "on safe" while the carry safety is "on safe" so it will already be "on" when you disengage the carry safety.

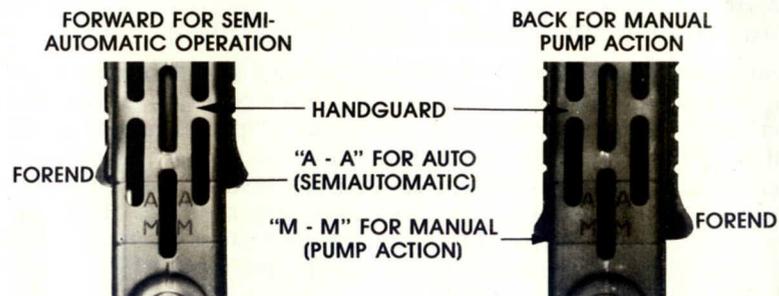
**THE BOLT** When the action is cocked and the bolt is closed the bolt is **LOCKED SHUT** for maximum safety. Firing (or dry firing) unlocks the bolt so the action may cycle. To unlock the bolt without firing, move the quick employment safety back to "ON SAFE" and the bolt may be opened.

# 2 HOW TO SWITCH BETWEEN PUMP ACTION AND SEMIAUTOMATIC

If the bolt is open, close it by pressing the carrier latch button on the left side of the receiver.



The auto/manual fire selector button is on the bottom of the forend. It can be pressed with a finger of your non-firing hand without changing your normal grip on the shotgun.



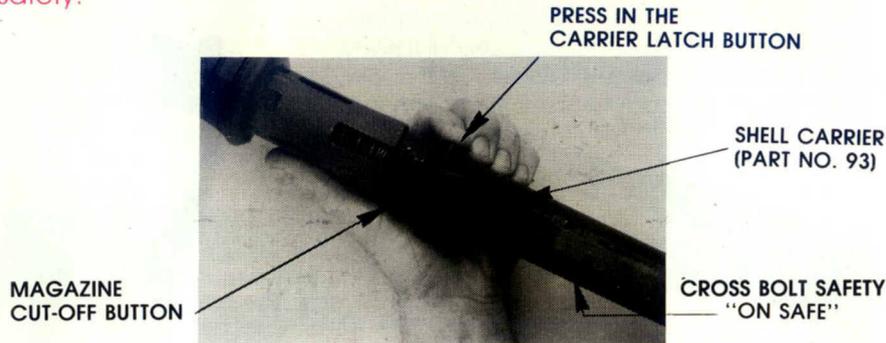
To switch from semiautomatic mode to pump mode, push in the selector button and slide the forend back so the rear of the forend lines up with the "M - M" line on TOP of the handguard.

To switch from pump mode to semiautomatic mode, push in the selector button and slide the forend forward so the rear of the forend lines up with the "A - A" line on TOP of the handguard.

Release the Auto/Manual Fire Selector button. It will snap back to a position flush with the forend. If it hesitates, jiggle the forend slightly to achieve proper alignment.

# 3 HOW TO LOAD AND UNLOAD

The shell carrier (Part No. 93) has 2 spring tensions. With the hammer cocked, it is easy to move, but with the hammer uncocked it is more difficult. **YOU WILL FIND LOADING MUCH EASIER WITH THE GUN COCKED, but be very careful to be sure the chamber is empty for safety.**



With the carry safety "on safe" hold the SPAS 12 upside down, press the carrier latch button and push 8 12 ga. 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" shells into the magazine to load it fully.

## TO UNLOAD

There are two methods for unloading the SPAS 12.

You may cut off the ammunition supply from the magazine by pressing the magazine cut-off button in until it catches. Move the quick employment safety back to the "on safe" position and open the bolt, ejecting the shell from the chamber. Close the bolt by pressing the carrier latch button on the left side of the receiver. Holding the shotgun bottom up, release the magazine cut-off button and press the carrier latch button. Reach in and press the magazine shell latch (part no. 13) with the tip of your finger, and let the shells slip out one by one.



Or simply eject the shells manually, using the pump mechanism or semiautomatic mode to cycle them through the chamber. **Use caution when doing this. To unlock the bolt after it closes each time, engage the quick employment safety. Keep the carry safety "on safe" all during this procedure.**

## CHANGING THE CHAMBERED CARTRIDGE

When you wish to fire a type of shell not in the magazine, you need not cycle all remaining shells through the action to clear the chamber. Press in the magazine cut-off button. Flip the quick employment safety back to its "on safe" position. Open the bolt with the operating handle (in semiautomatic) or by pumping the forend, to eject the shell in the chamber. Place the desired shell in the receiver and **close the bolt by pressing the carrier latch button on the left side of the receiver, NOT THE MAGAZINE CUT-OFF BUTTON. A jam will occur if you disengage the cut-off button before the bolt closes.**

Firing the shot will release the magazine cut-off button.

## STEEL AIR COOLED HANDGUARD

Even when the barrel is hot from repeated rapid firing, you may safely hold the SPAS 12 upside down for loading or unloading. Your hand is protected from direct contact with the barrel by the perforated steel handguard.

## MAGAZINE PLUG

The SPAS 12 comes with a nylon rod which limits the magazine to a capacity of 2 shells. To install it, unscrew the magazine extension and insert the narrow end toward the receiver, inside the large magazine spring. Place the magazine extension over the wide end of the rod and screw it back onto the magazine tube. **Be sure to tighten the magazine extension very firmly.**

# 4 AMMUNITION

**Because of the dangers of poor or nonexistent quality control standards among some companies and people who make reloaded ammunition, and the well known fact that dangerous overloads and underloads (squib loads) sometimes occur, we recommend that only good quality factory ammunition be fired in the SPAS 12. If you prepare your own handloads do not exceed recommended pressures in line with those generated by factory loads as manufactured by Remington, Winchester, Sovereign, Federal or other reputable companies.**

When firing in PUMP MODE you can use any kind of 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" shell from the lightest target load to the heaviest buckshot, rifled slug, and magnum loads.

**However, when firing in SEMIAUTOMATIC MODE you must use loads which provide sufficient energy to ensure reliable operation.**

These may be 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" standard or magnum bird shot, buckshot or slug loads, so long as they contain at least 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> oz. of shot and 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> - 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> dram equivalent of powder. You may wish to test various combinations of shot charges and powder charges to find a load (or set of loads) which appeals to you.

# 5 HOW TO PREPARE FOR FIRING

Activate one or both safeties.

Select pump or semiautomatic firing mode.

The chamber of the SPAS 12 can be loaded in three different ways:

- The chamber may be loaded before loading the magazine by opening the bolt, placing a shell in the receiver and closing the bolt.
- The chamber may also be loaded by loading the magazine, then operating the bolt to feed a shell from the magazine into the chamber, then loading another shell into the magazine.
- Or the chamber may be loaded by loading the magazine, pushing the magazine cut-off button, opening the bolt, placing a shell in the receiver, and closing the bolt by pushing the carrier latch button on the left side of the receiver.

**IF YOU RELEASE THE MAGAZINE CUT-OFF BUTTON BEFORE CLOSING THE BOLT THE GUN WILL JAM.**

If you leave the magazine cut-off button engaged, the firing of a shot will release it automatically, or you may do it manually AFTER the bolt is closed.

With magazine and chamber loaded you are ready to select a safe target, move the safeties to "off safe" and fire. Be sure you have a safe backstop.

**THINK!** What will you **HIT** if you **MISS** the target?

## INSTANT LOADING

The SPAS 12 may be carried with the bolt open, chamber empty, and magazine loaded yet still be instantly readied for firing. In semiautomatic mode, engage the magazine cut-off button. Open the bolt. It will lock open. When you strike a fairly hard glancing blow to the magazine cut-off button a shell will be released from the magazine, lifted into position and loaded into the chamber as the bolt closes.

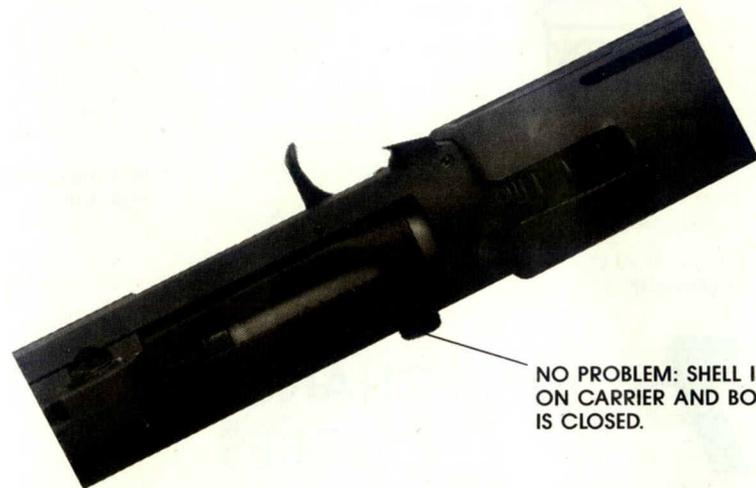
**But use caution. Unless you first put the carry safety lever in the "on safe" position the shotgun is ready to fire when the bolt closes.**

## SOME TIPS ON FIRING

In SEMIAUTOMATIC MODE the SPAS 12 requires firm resistance to the recoil of the gun, for continuous functioning. Place the extended stock solidly against your shoulder.

**LIGHT LOADS SHOULD BE AVOIDED IN SEMIAUTOMATIC MODE.**

PUMP MODE allows firing of any loads from the lightest to the heaviest. Use a quick, vigorous pumping stroke to cycle the action.



NO PROBLEM: SHELL IS ON CARRIER AND BOLT IS CLOSED.

If you see that a shell has slipped out of the magazine, under the closed bolt resting on the shell carrier, THIS IS NOT A JAM. Simply fire the gun or cycle the action by hand and the SPAS 12 will feed that shell into the chamber without allowing another shell to come out of the magazine. You need not use the magazine cut-off button or do anything else. The next shell will feed normally.

Although it is rare when using properly loaded ammunition, if you do experience a jam in semiautomatic mode you can switch to pump mode without releasing your firing grip on the gun. Keep your firing hand on the pistol grip. With your nonfiring hand switch the forend back to "M-M" for manual operation, and pump the action to clear the jam and reload the chamber.

# 6

## HOW TO USE THE THREE SIGHTS

The SPAS 12 is equipped with a fixed front post sight and two fixed rear sights: a large aperture (peep) for firing buckshot or birdshot shells, and a "U" notch for firing rifled slugs. The oversized aperture allows fast target acquisition and sight alignment. The "U" notch at the bottom of the aperture is for more precise aiming with slugs, and it lowers the impact point since slugs tend to hit high if you center the front sight in the large aperture.



SIGHT ALIGNMENT FOR SHOTSHELLS



SIGHT ALIGNMENT FOR SLUGS

# 7

## INTERCHANGEABLE CHOKES



THREAD PROTECTOR (CYLINDER BORE)



EXPOSED MUZZLE



OPTIONAL FULL OR MODIFIED CHOKE

Franchi Variomix chokes fit all SPAS 12 shotguns. They are available in full and modified chokes, both of which are 4" long and add 2 1/2" of effective barrel length. To change chokes, unscrew the thread protector or choke, and screw on the desired replacement.

POLICE AGENCY NOTE: FOR COMPATIBLE LAUNCHER CAPABILITY CONTACT A.A.I. CORPORATION, COCKEYSVILLE, MARYLAND

### DON'T RELY ON YOUR GUN'S SAFETY

Treat every gun like it can fire at any time, even without touching the trigger. The "safety" on a gun is a mechanical device, which, like any device can stop working at the worst possible time. Besides, by mistake, the safety may be "off" when you think it is "on". The safety adds to proper gun handling, but cannot serve as a substitute for common sense. You should never handle a gun carelessly and assume that it won't fire just because the "safety is on".

## WARNINGS

### READ THIS AND BE A SAFE SHOOTER

Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

Never point a gun at any person or thing you don't intend to shoot.

Treat every gun as if it is LOADED ... ALL THE TIME!

Get instructions from a competent firearms instructor before using any gun.

Children don't really believe that guns can kill. Keep every gun secure so kids can't get at it. If a child finds your gun and plays with it, **tragedy may result.**

Never rely on a gun's "safety" to protect you from unsafe gun handling. A safety is only a mechanical device, not a substitute for common sense.

Keep your finger **off the trigger** until you are actually aiming at the target ready to shoot.

Don't alter or modify your gun, and have guns serviced regularly.

Be certain the gun is unloaded before cleaning.

Always empty guns before entering a house, car, truck, boat, RV, camp or any building.

Never leave a loaded gun unattended.

Store guns and ammunition separately **beyond the reach of children.**

**DON'T DROP YOUR GUN.** If it falls it may fire even with the safety on. If you do drop it, unload it and check if it works correctly before using it again.

Be sure of your target and backstop before you shoot.

When receiving a gun always open the action and check that it's unloaded.

**If your firearm has seen a lot of use, don't forget, just like any mechanical device, parts may wear. Since a firearm could become dangerous and even fire unexpectedly with worn parts, you should have your gun checked by our factory or a good gunsmith regularly.**

Guns and alcohol or drugs don't mix. Don't take them before or during shooting activities.

Never pull a gun towards you by the muzzle. Don't climb a tree or cross a fence or ditch with a loaded gun.

# 8

## FIELD STRIPPING AND MAINTENANCE

The forend must be in the forward semiautomatic position, lined up with the "A - A" line on the top of the handguard.



With the magazine and chamber empty, pull the bolt back to the open position and leave it open. Unscrew the magazine extension and remove the magazine spring.

Pull the barrel/forend assembly forward to separate it from the receiver.

HOLDING THE OPERATING HANDLE FIRMLY, GENTLY close the bolt. Do not let it slam forward without the barrel securely in place. Permanent damage to the receiver could result.

Notice that the breech block now slides back and forth freely about 1/2". Holding the cocking slide and piston, compress the action spring a little so you can center the operating handle in its slot in the breech block.

Pull the operating handle out and slowly ease the tension of the action spring.



Slide the piston, cocking slide, spring and bolt assembly forward and out of the receiver. WATCH HOW THEY COME APART! You will be trying to figure out how to get them back together in a few minutes.



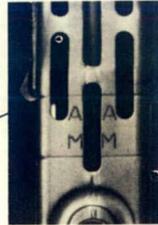
The black "O" goes on the magazine tube in front of the gas piston. If it comes off during cleaning be sure to put it back in place.

The trigger assembly can be removed by using a proper size punch to drive out the two retaining pins. Disassembly of the trigger mechanism is not recommended and not necessary for cleaning.

TRIGGER ASSEMBLY  
RETAINING PINS



"A - A" FOR AUTO  
(SEMIAUTOMATIC)



### CLEANING

Use nitro solvent and a light gun oil to clean and lubricate the bore. Clean the bolt assembly and upper receiver with solvent, then apply a light coat of oil. Put a small amount of oil on the magazine tube and the steel sleeve inside the front part of the forend.

A small brush will work better than a cleaning patch in some areas, such as the receiver and the trigger group.

Too much oil can eventually become gummy and cause sticking of parts and malfunctions. You must oil the steel surfaces to guard against rust, but do so sparingly.

### REASSEMBLY

Put the action spring back onto the magazine tube. Slide the piston into place.

Fit the cocking slide to the piston, and the reassembled bolt to the cocking slide, and slide it into the receiver.

Flip the quick employment safety back to its "on safe" position.

Carefully pull back on the operating handle until the bolt locks open. Fit the barrel/forend assembly over the magazine tube and into the receiver.

Replace the magazine spring and screw on the magazine extension.

### WARNING

SCREW THE MAGAZINE EXTENSION ON TIGHT! THIS IS WHAT HOLDS THE GUN TOGETHER! Check the magazine extension from time to time to be sure it is tight. If it loosens, the bolt will remain locked shut after firing and the gun will require simple disassembly to clear it and unlock the bolt. If there are shells in the magazine, the magazine spring will be under extra tension, so use caution when unscrewing the magazine extension. DO NOT USE TOOLS TO TIGHTEN MAGAZINE EXTENSION.

### CHECK FOR PROPER REASSEMBLY

Be sure the magazine extension is screwed on all the way. Close the bolt.

If properly assembled the bolt will lock and it will not be possible to open it until you move the quick employment safety to "on".

### WARNING

THIS GUN WAS MANUFACTURED TO PERFORM PROPERLY WITH THE ORIGINAL PARTS AS DESIGNED. IT IS YOUR DUTY TO MAKE SURE ANY PARTS YOU BUY ARE INSTALLED CORRECTLY AND THAT NEITHER REPLACEMENTS NOR ORIGINALS ARE ALTERED OR CHANGED. YOUR GUN IS A COMPLEX TOOL WITH MANY PARTS THAT MUST RELATE CORRECTLY TO OTHER PARTS. PUTTING A GUN TOGETHER WRONG OR WITH MODIFIED PARTS CAN RESULT IN A DAMAGED GUN, DANGER, AND INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU AND OTHERS THROUGH MALFUNCTION. ALWAYS LET A QUALIFIED GUNSMITH WORK ON YOUR GUN OR AT LEAST CHECK ANY WORK NOT PERFORMED BY A GUNSMITH. WE AT FIE THINK THIS IS A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR FIREARMS SAFETY.

SPECIFICATIONS:

barrel length ..... 21 1/2"  
totale length ..... 41"

weight empty .... 9 lbs., 10 oz. approx.

capacity .... 8 rounds in magazine + 1 in the chamber

double safety system: quick employment safety on left side of trigger guard  
cross-bolt safety in front part of trigger guard.

ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

All FIE guns are warranted to the original retail customer for one year from date of purchase against defects in material and workmanship. All parts and labor or replacement (at our option) are covered.

Transportation to and from our repair facilities, damage caused by failure to perform normal maintenance, sales outside the United States, damage due to use of high velocity, high pressure, reloaded or other nonstandard ammunition, or any unauthorized repair, modification, misuse, abuse, or alteration of the product is not covered by this Limited Warranty. Any implied warranties, including the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are limited to one year from date of original retail purchase. Consequential or incidental damages or expenses, or any other expenses are not covered by this warranty.

To obtain warranty performance send your product with proof of retail purchase, freight prepaid, to: FIE Corporation, 4541 N.W. 133rd Street, Opa-Locka, Florida 33054.

HOME GUN SAFETY IS PROBABLY YOUR BIGGEST CONCERN.

Hoppe's Gun Guardian is a good inexpensive gun lock kit. It works on any firearm (rifle, pistol or shotgun) or airgun, yet is instantly removable by an adult.

Hoppe's Gun Guardian kits are available in gun shops and sporting goods departments, or from Hoppe's, Airport Industrial Mall, Coatesville, PA. 19320. F.I.E. has tested them and we recommend them. After all, you have invested this much in your new gun. Now invest a little more in your children's safety.

~~PAIR + SERVICE~~ 685-5966  
YOUR OWNER'S MANUAL \$9.25

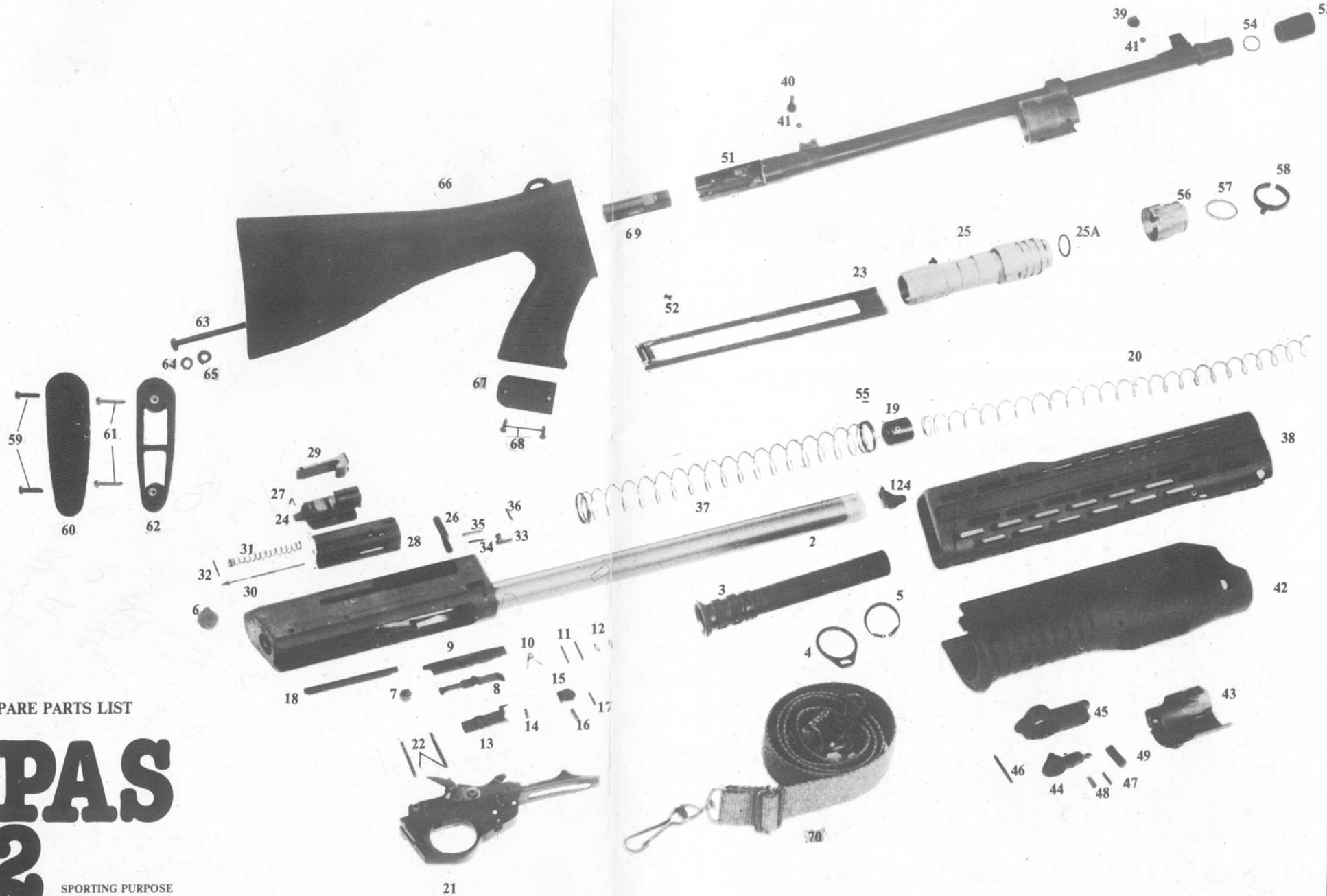
This manual contains important warnings which must be understood BEFORE using this firearm. Always keep it with the firearm.

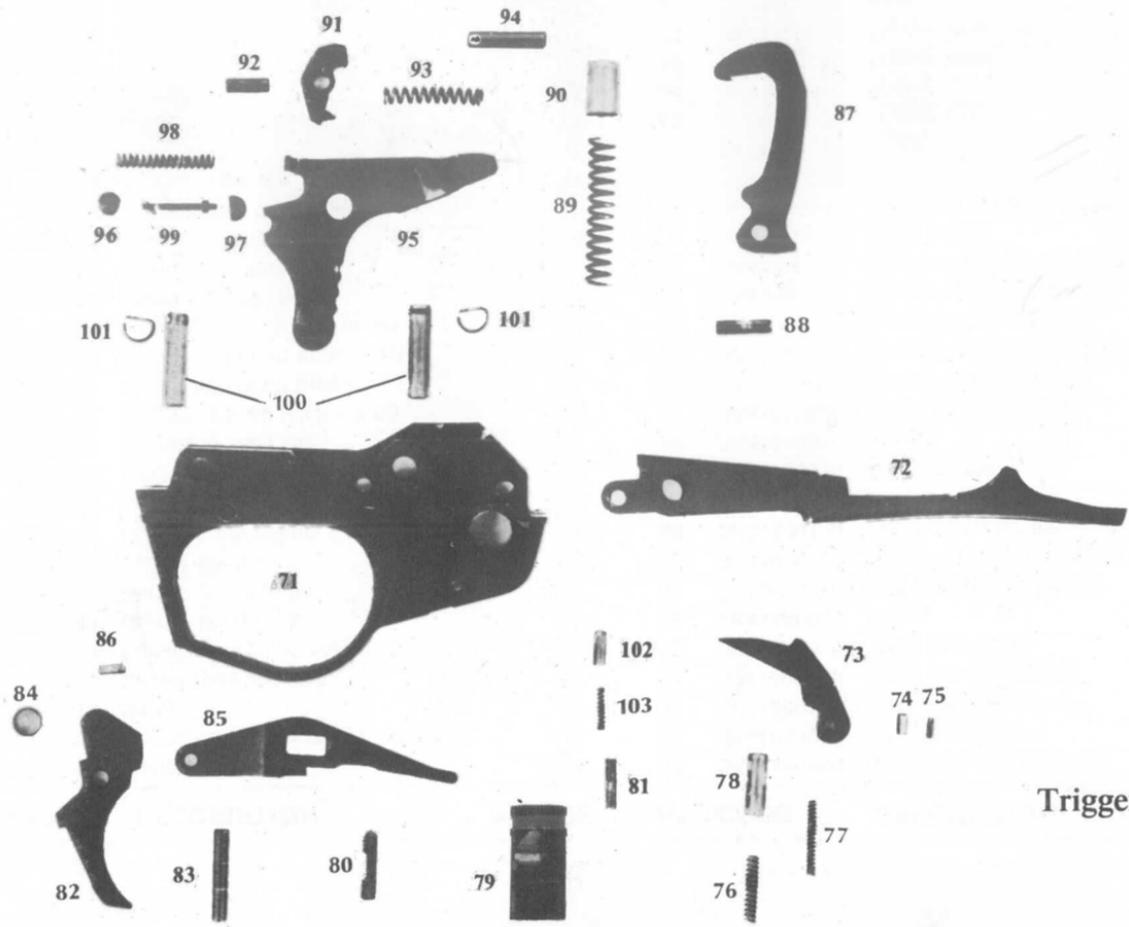
When you lend, give or sell the firearm, be sure the manual goes with it. You can get a copy of this manual from FIE on request.

SPARE PARTS LIST

# SPAS 12

SPORTING PURPOSE  
AUTOMATIC SHOTGUN





Trigger assembly

N°	CODE	DESCRIPTION	P. CODE
2	3K41880010	Magazine tube	H1
3	3K41180030	Magazine extension to 7 rounds	I7
4	3K41590010	Swivel	A5
5	3K41360100	Swivel retaining ring	A5
6	3A41350810	Receiver shock absorber	B5
7	3K41420840	Carrier latch button	C6
8	3A41640850	Carrier auxiliary latch	B5
9	3A41640860	Carrier latch	B5
10	3A41690140	Carrier latch spring	A1
11	3A41740010	Latch pin	A1
12	3141690050	Latch pin retaining spring	A1
13	3A41640840	Magazine shell latch	E6
14	3A41690050	Magazine shell latch spring	A1
15	3A41420830	Magazine cut-off button	D1
16	3A41690810	Magazine cut-off button spring	A1
17	3A41740820	Magazine cut-off button pin	A5
18	3A41860830	Locking block shoe	B5
19	3A41500010	Magazine follower	A5
20	3A41690060	Magazine spring	A5
21	3K41140010	Trigger plate assembly	Q1
22	3A41740020	Trigger plate pin	A1
23	3K41370010	Cocking rod	I7
24	3K41510010	Breech block slide	L1
25	3K41760040	Piston	R4
25A	3K41350020	Rubber ring	A1
26	3K41660810	Operating handle	D1
27	3A41690190	Operating handle spring	A1
28	3K41720810	Breech block	N7
29	3A41860840	Locking block	G7
30	3A41730810	Firing pin	B5
31	3A41690830	Firing pin spring	A1
32	3A41740070	Elastic firing pin	A1
33	3A41570810	Extractor	D1
34	3A41760840	Extractor plunger	A1
35	3A41690890	Extractor spring	A1
36	3A41740830	Extractor pin	A1
37	3K41690010	Action spring	C6
38	3K41710020	Handguard	H4
39	3K41890020	Handguard front screw	A5
40	3K41890010	Handguard rear screw	A5
41	3K41360090	Handguard screw elastic washer	A1
42	3K41380020	Slide action sleeve	G7
43	3K41360040	Cam	C1
44	3K41640070	Auto/manual fire selector	G5
45	3K41710010	Fire selector frame	C6
46	3K41740010	Fire selector frame pin	A1
47	3K41740020	Fire selector pin	A1
48	3K41690020	Fire selector spring	A1
49	3K41760090	Run piston	B5
51	3K41030810	Barrel extension	M5
52	2A41560810	Ejector	B5
53	3K41830060	Thread protection bush	G6
54	3A41360860	Choke tube rubber ring	A1
55	3K41740110	Magazine extension retaining spring	A1
56	3K41650020	Selection sleeve valve	G9
57	3K41690100	Sleeve valve friction spring	A1
58	3K41360050	Sleeve valve acting ring	C6
59	3K41890150	Butt plate screw	A1
60	3K41450069	Butt plate	B3

N°	CODE	DESCRIPTION	P. CODE
61	3K41890140	Butt plate support screw	A1
62	3K41840090	Butt plate support	E1
63	3K41890130	Stock fastening screw	A1
64	3241780020	Stock elastic washer	A1
65	3K41780030	Stock bushing	A1
66	3K41440080	Stock	G7
67	3K41850080	Butt plate for pistol grip	A5
68	3K41890160	Butt plate for pistol grip screw	A1
69	3K41890120	Pistol grip retaining screw	C6
70	3K41930010	Sling	E6
71	3K41820010	Trigger plate	H4
72	3K41550010	Carrier	E1
73	3A41530820	Breech block latch	D1
74	3A41740030	Breech bolt latch pin	A1
75	3241740120	Breech bolt latch internal pin	A1
76	3A41690870	Carrier main spring	A1
77	3A41690880	Carrier auxiliary spring	A1
78	3A41500810	Breech bolt latch spring follower	A1
79	3K41420010	Hand safety	G2
80	3K41760100	Hand safety piston	A1
81	3K41740050	Hand safety spring retaining pin	A1
82	3K41600010	Trigger	D1
83	3546740060	Trigger pin	A1
84	3K41430010	Spacer	A1
85	3K41640040	Trigger lever	B1
86	3K41740080	Trigger lever pin	A1
87	3K41460010	Hammer	B5
88	3141740080	Hammer pin	A1
89	3141690130	Hammer spring	A1
90	3141500040	Hammer spring follower	A1
91	3K41530010	Sear	D1
92	3K41740090	Sear pin	A1
93	3K41690120	Sear spring	A5
94	3K41740360	Sear spring guide	A1
95	3K41640030	Auto safety lever	C1
96	3K41740100	Rear trunnion	A5
97	3K41740070	Front trunnion	A5
98	3K41690070	Auto safety spring	A1
99	3K41760050	Auto safety spring guide	A1
100	3A41430020	Trigger guard pin byshing	A5
101	3A41690070	Trigger guard pin locking spring	A1
102	3K41500030	Hand safety follower	A5
103	3K41690110	Hand safety spring	A1