Our recommendation: Buy It. This handy carbine was not a tack driver, but it can do anything you’d ever want to do with a .308 semiautomatic rifle. It’s relatively light, recoils very little, and is the best balanced and handiest of the three test guns. It’s probably the best FAL being made anywhere in the world today.

**SPECIFICATIONS**

- **WARRANTY**: Lifetime
- **FINISH**: Parkerizing
- **WEIGHT (W/SCOPE)**: 8.9 lbs.
- **MAGAZINE CAPACITY**: 20 rds.
- **MAGAZINE TYPE**: Detachable
- **FLOORPLATE**: Steel
- **STOCK MATERIAL**: Black Polymer
- **ACTION TYPE**: Semiautomatic
- **TRIGGER PULL**: 5.5 lbs.
- **LENGTH OF PULL**: 14.6 in.
- **LENGTH**: 37.6 in.
- **BARREL LENGTH**: 17.2 in.
- **SIGHT RADIUS**: 22 in.
- **SIGHT RADIUS**: 22 in.

We thought the scope was unnecessary, bulky, and inappropriate. This is our Artemis 7 x 50. We’d have liked the L2A2 scope better, and no scope best of all.

With its action broken open just like your shotgun, the DSA SA58 FAL lets the bolt carrier be withdrawn easily by its tail. This permits cleaning the barrel easily from the rear. The tail actually contacts the bolt spring, located in the buttstock.

The aperture rear sight slides up a ramp for greater ranges. Windage adjustment is made by opposing screws in the sight’s base. Elevation changes are made by moving the front sight in and out. Machining was impeccable. We’d have preferred a handle, which is optional.

The large slotted-head screw is a hinge pin. The lever at the rear of the action permits the rifle to pivot around that hinge for near-instant field stripping.

**DSA, Inc. SA58 FAL**

Our recommendation: Buy It. FAL stands for Fusil Automatique Léger, or Light Automatic Rifle. DS Arms’ $1,495 SA58 version of it is all this and more. It’s a light, semiautomatic .308 rifle that is handy, has all the accuracy you could want, and is built correctly—from original blueprints—and will likely last several lifetimes. We’d leave off the scope for maximum handiness and replace the aluminum top mount with a simple steel slide-in dust cover. DSA has numerous configurations of this rifle available, including a lighter one and one that is more of a target version. Ours, we felt, was not accurate enough for pure target use, and we could see no reason to scope it. This is a very well-done, highly personal rifle that we heartily endorse.

DSA, also known as DS Arms, is run by Dave Selvaggio, hence the DS in the name. Since shortly after he set up business around 1987, Selvaggio has been the prime source in the U.S., and perhaps now in the world, for FAL rifle parts, rifles, accessories, books, you-name-it. He traveled all over the world buying up arsenals full of FAL things, brought them to his Illinois-based outlet, and sold them. He has lots of experience with numerous other high-end semiautomatic and fully automatic rifles, but came to prefer the “free world’s right arm,” the FAL in its many guises.

It became clear to Selvaggio several years ago that the supply of good existing FAL receivers was quickly disappearing. He didn’t like any of the numerous new receivers, because his experience told him they weren’t being made correctly. Some of the receivers were soft, some brittle. Most if not all of the new FAL receivers had major problems in one or another area, and Selvaggio knew this because he knew FALs like very few other living men. He decided to do the FAL right.