

# Precision SHOOTING

*Dealing exclusively with extreme rifle accuracy*

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## ABOUT THE COVER

Hello Dave,

This is an interesting rifle. While it appears to be the familiar Panda action it is that and more. It's the Speedy Gonzalez inspired variation of the beloved Stolle pattern, this particular one photographed to illustrate the ejection port, one of several options available. This is called the F-Class Panda which has an integral recoil lug and a scope base machined with 20 MOA of adjustment. While ideal for high-power shooting it is also perfectly suited for long range benchrest competition. Which is in fact the *raison d'être* of this particular rifle. It is chambered for a cartridge the mass produced version of which will soon be attracting the vigilant eye of many a wildcatter. This case is called

the 6.5mm Noble or the 6mm Noble depending on which size you prefer. The rifle is a switch-barrel so can go either way. The case is a .308 Win. or .243 Win. shortened to 48.5 mm, straightened a bit, shoulder renovated to 30 degrees and the neck is, guess what, .260 long. Gary Noble is a fellow (shooter) who lives out here in the woods and fog of the Pacific Northwest. The rifle was originally assembled by George Myer in Colorado but this new chambering and fitting were done by Rick Beginski, long-range gunsmith of choice of Mukilteo, Washington. Rick is committed to the discipline of long-range benchrest shooting and has been running the 600 and 1000 yard matches in Eatonville, WA for several years. A lot of NBRSA records have been set there, not coincidentally with guns Rick has crafted.

As alluded to above there is a lot of excitement on the web about the

new 6.5 x 47mm Lapua cartridge case, very similar to Gary Noble's invention. This modest piece of brass will no doubt set off a heck of a lot of experimentation in brass morphology. I bet the first offspring will be a 6mm version. This should be a killer round, kinder and more friendly — to barrel and shooter — than the .243 Win. Shooters have known for a long time that this is a desirable case size. Look at the 6mm International and the 7mm IHMSA. With good brass and an excellent choice of high b.c. 6mm bullets, it is bound to be popular with high power and benchrest shooters. It would be more balanced (efficient) than its .308 sized cousins and will reach out further than the 6BR. When the brass arrives on that big ship from Finland watch out for the stamped!

Best,  
Richard Nicol



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*(Pictured in background)*

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