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On the firing range at Fort Bliss, (El Paso) Texas.

## Guns of the Texas Rangers:

### Rifle Training with the New M4 Carbine

by Captain Barry Caver  
Company E, Midland, Texas

**F**or more than twenty years, the Department of Public Safety has issued Ruger Mini-14 rifles to our law enforcement officers. Using funds from drug seizures, a total of 3,008 M4 rifles have been purchased for use throughout the Texas DPS. Effective as they are, some age-related problems have begun to surface after twenty years.



The Ruger Mini-14 .223 served the Rangers for more than 20 years.

Recently Texs DPS adopted the M4-type assault weapon as a replacement for the Mini-14. The rifle is highly adaptable to emerging technology and can be modified and upgraded as long as it is in service. The Picatinny rail system, for example, allows for white light sources, infrared illumination, and both iron and glass optics, etc.



**Bushmaster M4 .223 equipped with an EOTech holographic sighting system and a SureFire tactical flashlight with pressure switch.**

**The six-position, collapsible stock that comes standard on the M4 allows the weapon to be used as a long gun and a tactical weapon for close-quarters combat. The M4 also possesses dual iron sights. These can be changed in an instant, and they can allow precision accuracy at distances up to 400 meters. The same is true for their accuracy in the battle position for SWAT-type missions, where instant target acquisition is a must.**

**The Ruger Mini-14 weapon performed admirably during its tenure with DPS and the Rangers. However, the more modern and technologically advanced M4 allows quick functionality, dependability, and instant adaptation to almost any situation that a Ranger may face.**



**Click Photo to Enlarge**

**Top: Brian Burzynski, Company E-Fort Stockton; David Duncan, Company E-Alpine; Troy Wilson, UCIT-San Antonio; Chance Collins, Company D-San Antonio; Lieutenant Bob Bullock, Company E-Midland; Captain Barry Caver, Company E-Midland; Brooks Long, Company E-Ozona; Matt Cawthon, Company F-Waco; Rocky Wardlow, Company F-Bastrop; Don Williams, Company E-Midland**

**Bottom: Jeremy Wallace, Company E-Midland; Nick Hanna, Company E-Brownwood; Jeff Collins, Company B-Greenville; Jess Malone, Company E-Midland; Calvin Cox, Company E-Abilene; Shawn Palmer, Company D-San Angelo; Martin Hood, Company C-Hereford; David Hullum, Company E-Eastland**



Brooks Long, Company E-Ozona; Jeff Collins, Company B-Greenville; Captain Barry Caver, Company E-Midland; Lieutenant Bob Bullock, Company E-Midland; Troy Wilson, UCIT-San Antonio; Nick Hanna, Company E-Brownwood; Chance Collins, Company D-San Antonio; Brian Burzynski, Company E-Fort Stockton



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