



I recently picked up my very first (*and hopefully first of many*) STG-58 FAL rifle (*and yes it does sit next to the bed at night while I admire it*). In the wonderful state I live in (*yes, I am being sarcastic*) FALs are considered an assault rifle and are not legal to purchase. That was until recently when several companies began manufacturing and marketing "*California Legal*" (*Cali*) FAL rifles.

Basically a Cali FAL is the same as a standard FAL with a few modifications:

1. It has a ten round magazine that can only be removed by loosening a hex screw that is threaded through the magazine release;
2. The grenade launcher is replaced by a muzzle brake;
3. There is no bayonet lug;
4. The receiver cover is shortened to allow feeding of cartridges through the top of the receiver.

The Cali FAL must be loaded through the top of the open receiver. This causes some problems if you have any aspiration to mount a scope. Luckily I found a newly released scope mount from TAPCO that solves this problem and then some.

#### TAPCO Contact Information



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#### **Orders**

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## Manufacturer Product Description and Price

### FAL STRIPPER CLIP RECEIVER COVER MOUNT

TAPCO is proud to introduce the latest in FAL receiver cover technology. Our newest addition has ALL the best features at the lowest price. Brand new production that fits both inch and metric receivers. It has an ultra high tech, positive frame locking system with no removable rails! It slides on just like the original military version and doesn't scratch your receiver. It is made of aircraft grade aluminum alloy and sports a Mil-Spec Picatinny rail on top. It uses standard .308 stripper clips (*MAG2406, sold separately*), which is loved by all but especially great for you CA residents as you can load mags from the top! All in all, we believe that this is hands down, the best, most advanced Weaver style mount to ever hit the market. ONLY at TAPCO!

**PRICE: \$49.99**

**figure 1**





The **FAL Stripper Clip Receiver Cover Mount** is a heavy duty mount that replaces the receiver cover and offers a Mil-Spec Picatinny Weaver rail to mount your scope on. Once the mount is placed on the rails of the receiver there are four external screws that lock small plates on the inside against the receiver. This way the receiver cover does not move around causing you to lose "zero".

I chose **Weaver 1" Detachable See-Thru Rings** (as shown in **figure 1** above) so I could also use the FAL's open sights without having to remove the scope and mount.

**Caution**

**First before starting any firearm related project: *Make sure the rifle is unloaded and pointed in a safe direction.***



Cock the bolt and then release the bolt to its closed position.



Pull back on the release arm on the left-hand side of the FAL receiver. Note the shortened receiver cover in **figures 3 and 4.**



Pivot the upper receiver open as shown in **figure 4.**



Slide the receiver cover from the upper receiver.



Slide the TAPCO receiver cover into place.



Push the scope mount receiver cover all the way forward.



Lower the upper receiver and latch in place.



Tighten the (two per side) locking screws.



With the upper receiver open, slide the front scope ring into place.



Next slide the rear scope ring into place.



After ensuring proper placement with the scope, install the scope ring screws.



Lock the scope rings in place.



Place the scope in the rings and install the tops of the scope rings.



Align the reticule of the scope and then tighten down the scope rings.



**Figure 16** shows the assembled rifle. The setup is very functional and you can easily switch between using the open sights and the scope without having to remove anything as I had intended.



I loaded up some NATO stripper clips and was ready for some shooting.



The TAPCO mount made it very easy to align the stripper clips and quickly load the magazine. This would be an ideal set-up for any FAL rifle. I have shot many FAL rifles with the original receiver cover configuration and have found that sometimes I would experience either feed or ejection problems. With the original receiver cover it was difficult to see what the problem was or rectify the problem without unloading the magazine. The TAPCO mount alleviates this problem for me.



I don't really like SKS receiver scope mounts as they are not a very stable platform for mounting a scope. They may provide adequate accuracy - but no more than can be achieved with iron sights. So as a result I had my doubts as to the stability of the TAPCO mount. Once tightened down and the scope zeroed I took a hickory hammer handle (*I use as a non marring mallet for other purposes*) and tapped fairly vigorously to see if I could dislodge or disrupt the zero, while being careful not to hit the scope.

I could not effect the zero!

Note
<i>I did manage to look like a crazy nut at the range while tapping my rifle with a piece of wood!</i>
<i>Hey, this is America - I can hit my rifle if I want to!</i>

As shown in **figure 1** above, you can see the thickness of

the receiver cover. The mount is rock solid. I found it to be very stable and did not lose zero at all, even after firing 100 rounds. To top everything off (*no pun intended*) I am actually able to achieve better accuracy with the scope than with the open sights. Well duh....isn't that the way it is supposed to be? Why yes - yes it is!

**jlm;)**

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