



Team Journal – Part 22

Friday 3rd September

The day of the America match opened like most of our other New Mexico days: another gorgeous day - one could get very used to this. Some of the team members who are not shooting today looked a little bleary-eyed this morning. Apparently there was some merriment last night among those who did not partake in the civilised experience that was dining at the St James Hotel. All of the details have not been revealed to your correspondent, for obvious reasons. However, Jumbo did pass on that he would like his office to ignore the detailed instructions given by him to his office in a telephone conversation at 2 a.m. Mountain Time.

After the three appropriate national anthems had been played and the last daily cannon blast, the teams drew for targets at 300x. In still, clear conditions the GB team started with a brace of Luckmans (Luckmen?). We left 300x two points ahead of the US team, having dropped only 1 point. (GB 1199.80, USA 1197.81, Germany 1184.53)

At 600x the wind picked up (it is, in its timing at least, very regular here) with wind calls in the range $\frac{1}{4}$ - $1\frac{3}{4}$ right. We gained another 2 points on the US team at this range (GB 1198.72, USA 1196.72, Germany 1164.37).

At 900x the wind, again, became the most important factor, varying from a strong breeze from the right to a more moderate movement straight down the range (6 right to a smidgeon left). There was a clear difference in styles evident at this range: the US style is to shoot quickly and to, generally, shoot through, pausing for only short periods. By contrast our coaches held the shooters for longer periods when the wind was changing. Thus, the US team put their first 4 firers through in the time 2 of ours took to finish and when the US team had completed the range we still had $3\frac{1}{2}$ firers to shoot. At this range the US team scored 12 more points than we did (USA 1194.58, GB 1182.53, Germany 1145.34). Therefore when we went back to 1000x and the lunch break we were 8 points behind the US team.

Things at 1000x certainly did not get any easier. The wind was changing very quickly, with a spread from about 6 left to 4 right. Both the US and GB teams started slowly, feeling their way. David Luckman, the first man on the right hand target was down for over 45 of the allotted 105 minutes. With 30 minutes to go each of the GB targets had 2 shooters to get through and both Parag and Jon Underwood, the last men down had to fire quickly to beat the clock. It must be said that the US team was not much ahead of us. At the end of this range the US team had pulled away by a further 15 points to win the match by 23 points (partly, at least, due to some very impressive

coaching by Emil Praslick). Total scores were US 4742.250, GB 4719.243 and Germany 4553.142. Top score on the day was a very impressive 599.36 by Dan Simpson and top of the GB scorecard was Jon Underwood with 597.28.

After the match there was an award ceremony, and then it was back to the hotel to pack. This evening we are having our team dinner at a local restaurant. Tomorrow we have to be up and on the road to Denver by 5 a.m. for a noontime plane to Toronto and from there to Heathrow and home.

Looking back over the tour it would be very easy to dwell upon our two disappointments - the Canada Match and the America Match. As a counter to that, however, the tour has been a great success in a number of different ways. There was, obviously, victory in the Commonwealth Match. There were also the many individual triumphs of team members - particularly those of David Luckman in winning the US Grand (and so nearly the Canadian) and David Calvert in winning the Governor's General Prize. It also has been a huge success in terms of the team, which has worked well together through a very hectic schedule and remained good humoured at all times. Above all, every one of us has enjoyed the tour enormously.

The America Match

Captain: John Webster
Adjutant: Alwyn McLean
Main Coach: Nick Hinchliffe
Sub Coaches: Jeremy Langley & David Richards
Reserves: Toby Raincock & Nigel Ball

Firers	300y	v	600y	v	900y	v	1000y	v	TOTAL	v
Jon Underwood	150	9	150	8	149	5	148	6	597	28
Andy Luckman	149	8	150	8	149	12	146	7	594	35
Jon Cload	150	12	149	11	150	9	142	6	591	38
Parag Patel	150	10	150	8	149	6	141	5	590	29
David Luckman	150	12	150	9	144	4	145	3	589	28
Jane Messer	150	12	150	10	148	5	140	7	588	34
Mary Boston	150	11	150	10	147	7	138	0	585	28
James Watson	150	6	149	8	146	6	140	3	585	23
Totals:	1199	80	1198	72	1182	54	1140	37	4719	243

USA

Firers	300y	v	600y	v	900y	v	1000y	v	TOTAL	v
Dan Simpson	150	13	150	10	150	6	149	7	599	36
Sandra Pagel	150	12	150	11	149	6	148	7	597	36
Norman Crawford	150	8	149	7	148	7	148	4	595	26
Noma Mayo	150	12	150	11	150	9	144	6	594	38
Nancy Tompkins- Gallagher	150	8	147	5	149	10	147	7	593	30
Tom Whittaker	150	12	150	12	149	7	142	1	591	32
Kent Reeve	150	9	150	8	150	5	139	4	589	26
Robert Gustin	147	7	150	8	149	8	138	3	584	26
Totals:	1197	81	1196	72	1194	58	1155	39	4742	250

Today's Gallery



Erica flies the flag



Our Captain congratulates the US captain Peter LaBerge



Today, sadly, Old Glory in the ascendant over the Union Flag



The three teams line up for a photograph