

---

**SHAWNEE MCMURRAN**, US Military Academy, Department of Mathematical Sciences, West Point, NY 10996  
*The Impact of Ballistics on Mathematics*

In 1742 Benjamin Robins published *New Principles of Gunnery*, the first book to deal extensively with external ballistics. Subsequently, Frederick the Great asked Euler for a translation of the best manuscript on gunnery. Euler chose Robins' book and, being true to form, tripled the length of the work with annotations. The annotated text was translated back into English, which, two and a half centuries later, brings us to the theme of this lecture.

This work was done in collaboration with V. Frederick Rickey and Maj. Patrick Sullivan (United States Military Academy).