

Warsaw Pact Small Arms Guide 2.0/2.2

by James Langham



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Note that some fictional weapons are included and some weapons developed in real life have not been incorporated into this alternative history.

Version 2.2.5



Illustration 1: Soviet infantry in Iran with AK74/BG15 and SVD

One Weapon's Story

Manufactured in 1974 in the Tula Arsenal, the AKM serial number 265-478426 was first issued to Private Alexander Timishenko in December 1976. At the end of his service it was returned to storage before being transferred to the Afghan Army in March 1981. Issued to an unknown soldier it was listed as lost in action. It next resurfaces when it was found on a dead Mujahadeen in Kandahar in October 1985. According to official records, it shows as being returned to the Afghan Army but appears to have actually been taken illegally back to Russia where it was recovered by the Militia in June 1991 during a raid on a mafia boss. One of the bodyguards Ivan Bulgarin had been a member of the unit that recovered the weapon and can be assumed to have smuggled it back. The rifle remained in the Militia stores until March 1996 when all confiscated weapons were cleared out of Militia arsenals. The weapon was returned to the factory where it was converted into an AKM-R. It was then issued to Corporal Mikhail Tupolin, a reservist recalled to the 67th Motor Rifles. It's subsequent history is unknown until it was recovered from the body of a marauder wearing the insignia of the Polish Airborne near Czechtowa in January 1999. It was used by a Private First Class Julie Sanchez, a driver with the 5th Infantry Division. It next turned up at Bremehaven in Operation Omega but no records were kept of who handed it in, only that it was a member of the 5th Division (PFC Sanchez does not appear on the records of those who returned in TF34). It then shows as issued to the Alaskan Scouts in October 2001. It is currently still on their strength.

Abridged from
 "Kalashnikov – an illustrated
 history."
 John Peters
 New York University Press
 2007

Warsaw Pact Small Arms

During the Twilight War, the Warsaw Pact was fortunate that most weapons were type standardised across the alliance. Most weapons were manufactured by most or all of the countries of the eastern Block and often client states, often with small variations. If there was little or no variation separate details have not generally been given.

1. Rifles

AK47

The AK47 was first issued to Russian troops in 1949 and was the first of the Kalashnikov family (named after it's designer Mikhail Kalashnikov). It quickly gained a reputation for simplicity and ruggedness. Its ease of use was also high, even when wearing thick gloves. Few AK47s were left in Russian armouries although a few mobilisation only units were issued them and some Pact countries issued them to third (or occasionally second) line units. A few for paratroops and vehicle crews, were made in folding stock versions (the AKS47) where the metal skeleton butt folded underneath the weapon (based on the design of the German MP40). Versions were made throughout the Warsaw Pact (and elsewhere) which differed only in minor details and were functionally identical and interchangeable. Made with a fair degree of tolerance this gave the AK47 a well deserved reputation for reliability (although at a price of longer ranged accuracy). Culturally the distinctive shape was recognised world wide and associated with freedom fighting. It is also the only firearm to feature on a national flag.



Illustration 2: AK47 from the SASC Museum Collection

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AK47	5	3D6	2-nil	5	30	3	7	50	Excellent	\$150 (C/V)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	5	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKS47	5	3D6	2-nil	4	30	4	11	35	Excellent	\$175 (R/S)
stock	5	3D6	2-nil	5	30	3	7	50	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	4.75	Mag	30 box	Notes				

Created for the Twilight 2000 RPG by James Langham

AKM

The 1959 AKM was a modernised version of the AK47 and the AKMS a modernised AKS47. These (and their locally manufactured variants) were modified slightly for ease of manufacture but were functionally identical. These were again only held by late raised units. A number of variants of the AKMS exist where the stock is side folding but these are rarer than the standard version. Some Spetznatz units preferred the older 7.62mmS cartridge to the newer 5.45mm and returned to using the AKM, valuing the hitting power of the older cartridge.

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKM		5	3D6	2-nil	5	30	3	7	50	Excellent	\$250 (C/V)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	4	Mag	30 box		Notes				

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKMS		5	3D6	2-nil	4	30	4	11	35	Excellent	\$275 (C/V)
stock		5	3D6	2-nil	5	30	3	8	50	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.75	Mag	30 box		Notes				



Illustration 3: US Marines from 3rd Marine Division being familiarised with foreign weapons, in this case an AKM and an Iranian copy MP5K. USMC

“We’ve all heard the stories about how reliable the AK is. I remember when we were just outside Warsaw our platoon sergeant, a guy called Anderson dug out this battered AK from the rubble. It was battered to hell and back, chunks of wood were missing, half the stock had broken off, it was covered in mud and rust. He took the mag off, checked it, refitted it, quoted Clint Eastwood in ‘Heartbreak Ridge’, you know the ‘This is the AK47, the preferred weapon of your enemy’ speech. Then he chambered a round and fired the entire magazine without a stoppage. Later someone spotted it was even setting off the Geiger counter, but it worked right, first time, every time.”

*PFC Graham Olsen
5th Infantry Division
BBC Radio 4 News
17/04/98*

AK74

A further development was the AK74 first produced in 1974. Modified to fire the new 5.45mm round, this version featured a prominent muzzle brake. Approximately 50% of the parts are the same as the AKM. The folding stock of the AKS74 was also modified, a rigid hinged stock folding alongside the left of the weapon (this was notoriously difficult to release at either end if wearing gloves). In an attempt to make the magazines more distinguishable from the metal AK47/AKM magazine, a plastic

orange magazine was introduced, this was however too bright and quickly changed to a more brown coloured version and later during the war to black. Confusion can be caused however as 7.62S magazines were also later manufactured in the brown and black plastic.



Illustration 4: AK74 from the Royal Green Jackets Museum



Illustration 5: AKS74 from the Black Museum of the Metropolitan Police

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AK74	5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	5	50	Excellent	\$300 (C/V)
Ammo	5.45	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKS74	5	2D8	1-nil	4	30	3	7	35	Excellent	\$325 (S/C)
stock	5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	5	50	Excellent	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	3.75	Mag	30 box	Notes				

The AK74 family rapidly became the standard weapon of front line units and gradually replaced earlier versions in reservist units.

AK74N/AKM-N

A large number of AK74s and AKMs (mainly East German MPiKMs) were inherited by the German government on unification, these have been discovered in Croatian and rebel Polish hands (as were a number of SKS carbines that were found in storage). In addition these weapons were used to arm German Territorial units in the former eastern part of the country. Some of these were converted to take the STANAG magazine and chambered for



Illustration 6: AKM-N from the Soviet Small Arms Museum, Moscow.

5.56mm. These weapons known as the AK47-N/AKM-N/ AK74N (unofficial NATO designations, in German service they were known as the G12/G13/G14, suffixed A1 if fitted with folding stocks) were never very popular as the legendary reliability was downgraded with the tolerances being less. It was however an easy item for former

East German troops to adapt to. In addition a number were produced for Peru, Ghana, Nigeria and India manufactured in 5.56mm as the Wieger. These were not capable of



Illustration 7: Stg941 from the Hannover Museum Collection

fully automatic fire but could fire three round bursts. A number of these were issued to special forces and the Stassi (in particular the shortened StG943) but most were exported. These were also taken into German service in 1996 as the G15 (fixed stock StG941), G15A1 (folding stock StG942) and G15K (StG943). A heavier squad

automatic version had been planned but this was never developed. There was however a heavier barrellled version for marksmen which was manufactured from 1996 and issued as the G15z (due to the late introduction it never received a StG number). The Soviets are also believed to have manufactured a number for covert operations using 5.56mm ammo although no firm evidence of this has ever been found.

						Recoil									
						ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AK74N						5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	2	6	50	Average	\$320 (S/R)
Ammo	5.56	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes									

						Recoil									
						ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKS74N						5	3D6	1-nil	4	30	3	8	35	Average	\$345 (S/R)
stock						5	3D6	1-nil	4/5	30	2	6	50	Average	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	3.75	Mag	30 box	Notes									

						Recoil									
						ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKM-N/AK47N						5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	7	50	Average	\$300 (S/R)
Ammo	5.56	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes			AK47N weighs 4.75						

						Recoil									
						ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKMS-N/AKS47N						5	3D6	1-nil	4	30	3	9	35	Average	\$325 (S/R)
stock						5	3D6	1-nil	4/5	30	3	7	50	Average	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	3.75	Mag	30 box	Notes			AKS47N weighs 4.5						

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
StG941	3	3D6	1-nil	5	30	2	5	50	Average	\$300 (S/R)
Ammo	5.56	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				



Illustration 8: German MAD (Militarischer Abschirmdienst) officer with G15k supports a military intelligence interrogator by acting as a translator. Date and location unknown. (Bundersarchive)

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
StG942	3	3D6	1-nil	4	30	3	6	35	Average	\$325 (S/R)
stock	3	3D6	1-nil	4/5	30	2	5	50	Average	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	3.75	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
StG943	3	3D6	1-nil	3	30	2	6	30	Average	\$350 (S/R)
stock	3	3D6	1-nil	4	30	2	5	40	Average	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	3.5	Mag	30 box	Notes				

	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
G15z	SA	3D6	1-nil	3	30	2	-	55	Average	\$800 (S/R)
bipod	SA	3D6	1-nil	4	30	2	-	65	Average	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	4.5	Mag	30 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m for aimed shots			

Yugoslavian AK variants

Yugoslavia also manufactured a number of variants of the AK series. Many of these can be regarded as normal AK series weapons with the usual minor differences (e.g. the M70 was a slightly modified version of the M64 which was a straight copy of the AK47). There were however a number which are worth further detailing. As Yugoslavia attempted to become non-aligned, attempts were made by Zastava Arms to create AK models for the export market. The M77B1 was a version of the AK47 in 7.62N. This had a compressor similar to the SVD, a carrying handle similar to the FN FAL and a straight 20 round magazine. Sometimes



Illustration 9: Serbian soldiers, they are carrying M77B1 rifles. CIA Archives

issued as a battle rifle it was often used as a designated marksman rifle by militia units (although the terms marksman and militia were not a good combination!). It was highly popular with CIA operatives.



Illustration 10: M80 and M80A from the CIA collection

The M80 was a similar attempt to create a weapon for the export market, this time in 5.56mm. This met with less success but production was restarted by Zastava to arm Serbian forces operating alongside the US IV Corps. The M80A is a folding stock version. They can fire both the SS109 and M193 rounds effectively by adjusting the gas regulator.

All of these weapons are slightly less reliable than the original versions due to the higher tolerances required by NATO ammo. They are usually not found outside Yugoslavia except for the small numbers exported.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M77B1	5	4D6	2-3-nil	5	20	4	9	65	Average	\$500 (-/-)
Ammo	7.62N	Wt	4.8	Mag	20 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M80	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	7	50	Average	\$300 (-/-)
Ammo	5.56	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M80A	5	3D6	1-nil	4	30	3	9	35	Average	\$345 (-/-)
stock	5	3D6	1-nil	4/5	30	3	7	50	Average	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	3.5	Mag	30 box	Notes				

AKMR/AK47R

As the AK74 series were a new calibre they required the replacement of the unit's weaponry on a complete basis as opposed to the partial replacement as the AKM had



Illustration 11: AKMR from the Warsaw Collection

done. As a result as weapons were withdrawn they were placed in storage. As the war progressed, weapon shortage resulted in many of these being re-chambered for the 5.45 cartridge and designated AKMR/AKMSR (or occasionally the older AK47R/AKS47R). These are externally identical to the AKM except for the large groove painted red cut into the hand-guard and/or stock.. Some early AK74s may actually be modified AKMRs. Note that 5.45mm magazines from the weapons will not fit in 7.62mm rifles (but the reverse does not apply). If a 7.62mm magazines is fitted to a 5.45mm weapon, the rounds will not chamber.

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						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AK47R	5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	3	7	45	Good	\$225 (R/S)
Ammo	5.45	Wt	5	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKS47R	5	2D8	1-nil	4	30	4	11	35	Good	\$250 (R/S)
stock	5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	3	7	45	Good	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	4.75	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKMR	5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	3	7	45	Good	\$275 (C/V)
Ammo	5.45	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKMSR	5	2D8	1-nil	4	30	4	8	35	Good	\$300 (S/C)
	5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	3	7	45	Good	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	3.75	Mag	30 box	Notes				

AK74M



Illustration 12: AK74M from the SASC Museum Collection

From 1994 production switched to the AK74M which looks like an AK74 with black plastic furniture. The solid stock hinges in a similar way to the AKS74, giving the best of both worlds.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKS74M	5	2D8	1-nil	4	30	3	7	40	Excellent	\$350 (R/S)
stock	5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	5	50	Excellent	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	3.75	Mag	30 box	Notes				

Wz88 Tantal



Illustration 13: Wz88 from the Warsaw Collection

The Poles adopted a modified version of the AK74, the Wz88 which had entered service with front line troops in 1991. It was almost identical to an AKS74 but used a different folding

stock (similar to previous Polish ones) and incorporated a four setting change lever (safe, repetition, three round burst and automatic). No fixed stock version was made and some included a bipod (\$50 more expensive).

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKS74M	3/5	2D8	1-nil	4	30	3	5/7	40	Excellent	\$350 (R/S)
stock	3/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	4/6	50	Excellent	
bipod	3/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	4/6	45	Excellent	
bipod & stock	3/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	3/5	60	Excellent	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	3.75	Mag	30 box	Notes				

AS Val



This was a specialist silenced rifle developed in the 1980s. It

Illustration 14: AS Val from the SASC Museum Collection

fired a special subsonic 9x39mm cartridge (based on a 7.62x39mm cartridge with the neck enlarged) through a suppressor. Issued to specialist troops it was quite popular although ammunition was in short supply by 1999. The round like the 5.45 round tended to tumble due to an air space in the nose. There was a specialist AP round available (which has a pen of 1-nil and a damage of 3D4 as the round did not have the air space). Mechanically and in layout the AS Val was very similar to a normal AK although the selector lever was separate from the safety catch and was placed inside the trigger guard. It has a folding stock similar to the AKS74. Issued only to specialist troops it was not widely seen (most examples in the West were either captured from caches or obtained from Japanese traders).



Illustration 15: AS Val being carried by a member of the Latvian Free Army's "Dragon Brigade" in 2002. Museum of the Latvian People

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AS Val	5	2D6	1-nil	4	10/20	1	4	20	Excellent	\$1000 (-/R)
stock	5	2D6	1-nil	5	10/20	1	3	30	Excellent	
Ammo	9mmSS	Wt	2.5	Mag	10/20 box	Notes				

SR-3 Vikhr



Illustration 16: SR-3 from the Krakow Collection

This was a variant of the AS Val without the integral suppressor intended to provide a very small concealable weapon suitable for bodyguards. As it fires the subsonic round without the suppressor it is noisier than the AS Val but far more concealable (helped by a new folding stock and cocking handle). The AP ammo has a pen of 1-nil and a damage of 3D6. The were plans for a version with a detachable suppressor but this was

abandoned before any were produced. Examples are more common in the West than the AS Val and were often obtained from the same sources. It appears that some late war units may have been issued these for tank crew. They were also popular with KGB and GRU muscle for the firepower they provided.

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
SR-3 Vikhr		5	2D8	1-nil	2	10/20	2	7	25	Excellent	\$400 (-/S)
stock		5	2D8	1-nil	3	10/20	2	5	35	Excellent	
Ammo	9mmSS	Wt	2	Mag	10/20 box	Notes					

Wartime Production AKs

Wartime production resulted in a great variety of variations in production. In addition earlier versions were pulled from storage making verification of variants difficult. The R variant above causes further confusion. It is believed that much AK74M production was changed to AK74 and AKS74 as the war progressed, some of which retained the plastic furniture, some of which changed back to wood. Many local workshops were set up due to the simplicity of the design and reports exist of AK series weapons in different calibres (including .410 shotgun). None of these are thought to be official variants.



Illustration 17: A locally crafted AK in .410 shotgun note the all new front end. (Ukrainian Military Museum)

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AK410 close		5	5D3	Nil	5	10	2	6	20	Good	\$300 (R/R)
medium		5 x 5	1D3	Nil	5	10	2	6	20	Good	
Ammo	.410	Wt	4	Mag	10 box	Notes					

It is estimated that of the 500 million weapons available worldwide in 1995, 100 million were members of the Kalashnikov family and 75 million were AK47/AKMs.

Foreign AK variants

“I came across this odd AK variant in the hands of one of our special forces guys. It looked like it had been modified a bit, hell no, I mean a lot. It had had rails added to the hand guard (which was odd anyway, it was a weird all metal one with a vertical grip) with a laser dot sight added on one side and a torch on the other. The wire stock was odd too but he told me it was the normal one, although he admitted it had been bent a bit so that he could fit a 75 round drum with the stock folded. Like a said, really odd.”

*Sergeant John Demaio
1st Infantry Division
National Geographic
interview 15/04/1997*

Most Pact countries manufactured AK variants that in game terms are functionally identical. The most obvious example being the Romanian versions with a vertical wooden hand grip.

AMD65

In addition there were a number of AK variants that are significant enough to warrant further notes. The Hungarian AMD65 was a short AKM with a different flash eliminator, vertical front hand grip and a single tube folding stock (as opposed to the two tube AK series). This all metal weapon had a huge recoil and was used by vehicle crews and paratroops only.



Illustration 18: AMD65 fitted with a 75 round RPK drum (National Geographic)

	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	Recoil		Rng	Reliability	Price
AMD65	5	3D6	1-nil	3	30	3	10	30	Good	\$300 (R/S)
stock	5	3D6	1-Nil	4	30	2	8	40	Good	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				



Illustration 19: Croatian militia man with Stg44. (Yugophoto)

MP44/Stg44

The MP44/Stg44 was the world's first effective assault rifle and the first to fire an intermediate cartridge. Very popular with German troops in the Second World War, it continued in service with the East German Volksarmee and Volkspolizei as the Mpi44 until they were replaced in the 1960s by the AK series for the army and PPSH41 for the police. In addition they were used by Yugoslavian 63rd Paratroop Battalion until just before the Twilight War (these were then passed on to militia units). Outside of Europe they were seen during the Cold War in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. Manufacture continued after the war in Czechoslovakia (who also initially used the rifle as their standard weapon).

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
MP44	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	7	50	Good	\$300 (-/S)
Ammo	8mmK	Wt	5.2	Mag	30 box	Notes				



Illustration 20: German police show off weapons captured from a marauder group, two are Kar98Ks (originally manufactured in Germany and later captured by the Soviets), the third is an MP44 manufactured in Czechoslovakia post World War Two. (Bundersarchive)



Illustration 21: 27 SAS trooper familiarisation firing a Vz58V (most versions of this photo misidentify it as an AK47) (MoD)

Vz58

The Czechoslovakians developed the Vz58 which whilst externally looking like an AKM was actually very different internally. This was the standard rifle of both Czech and Slovak forces in the Vz58P with a fixed wooden stock (later versions had a wood impregnated plastic but the same designation). A folding stock version known as the Vz58V was used by parachute troops and vehicle crews which has a stock that folds to the right. A special version of the Vz58P the VZ58Pi featured a night sight mounting rail, a detachable folding bipod and an enlarged conical flash eliminator. Some were exported to the

Middle East (they were often seen in PLO hands) and Cuba. The magazines are NOT compatible with the Kalashnikov family despite looking very similar. In addition it has a separate dust cover and change lever as opposed to the combined Kalashnikov version. The change lever is similar to the M16 and mounted on the right of the body above the pistol grip. Experimental versions in 7.62mmN, 9mmP, bullpup versions, a squad automatic versions and sniper rifle versions were made in prototype forms but never manufactured in quantity.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz58P	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	8	50	Good	\$300 (S/C)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.8	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz58V	5	3D6	1-nil	4	30	4	11	45	Good	\$300 (R/S)
stock	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	8	55	Good	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.5	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz58Pi	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	7	55	Good	\$350 (S/C)
bipod	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	2	4	65	Good	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.8	Mag	30 box	Notes				

Vz92

In the early 1990s, the Czechoslovakians decided to upgrade their rifles to 5.45. Deciding again not to follow the Soviets but to create their own rifle, they went back to basics but did ensure that the magazines were compatible with the AK74 (although they did produce their own magazines in black polymer). Conscious of the huge muzzle blast of the AK74, a new muzzle break was introduced which deflected more of the blast diagonally upwards. The stock was also different, being a double strut with one running each side of the weapon which telescoped into housings on the weapon sides, having four different settings, locked by means of a metal sliding bar. The selector was separate from the dust cover and was an ambidextrous dial on each side of the weapon. It had four settings, safe, single shot, 2 round burst (firing at a faster rate of 1400 rounds per minute allowing both rounds to be fired before recoil is felt) and automatic (at 800 rounds per minute). The sight base was also increased over the rest of the Kalashnikov family to aid accuracy. A bipod was fitted as standard as were fittings to mount night sights. The Vz92 was never manufactured in large numbers. It was popular with users but was felt to be less robust than a true Kalashnikov, mainly due to the many features it incorporated. The Vz92G was a variant that was capable of firing rifle grenades using special blank cartridges (fired from a special 10 round magazine that will not hold ball rounds). Plans were made to develop sniper, machine gun and submachine gun versions but these were never developed. In early 1997 an economy version the Vz92E was developed featuring a fixed wooden stock, removing the bipod and simplifying the gas system by removing the two round burst setting.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz92	2/5	2D8	1-nil	4	30	3	4/6	40	Good	\$425 (R/S)
stock	2/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	3/5	55	Good	
bipod	2/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	3/5	45	Good	
bipod & stock	2/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	2/4	65	Good	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	3.5	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz92E	5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	5	55	Good	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	3.5	Mag	30 box	Notes				

		Recoil								
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz92G	2/5	2D8	1-nil	4	30	3	4/6	40	Good	\$450 (-/R)
stock	2/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	3/5	55	Good	
bipod	2/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	3/5	45	Good	
bipod & stock	2/5	2D8	1-nil	5	30	2	2/4	65	Good	
rifle grenade	SA	-	-	4/5	10	8	-	-	Good	Without stock recoil 12
Ammo	5.45	Wt	3.5	Mag	30 box	Notes	Recoil is halved if the stock is braced on the ground			

Valmet Rk62

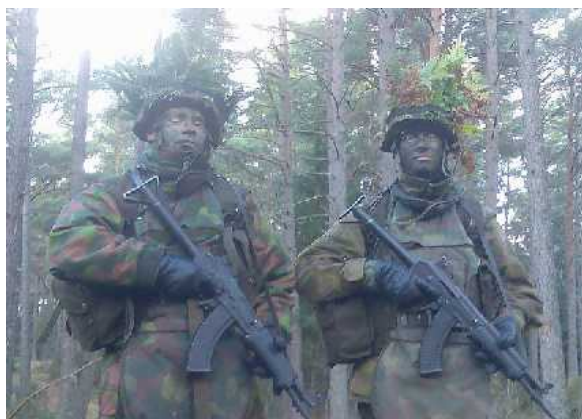


Illustration 22: Finnish troops pose with Rk62s (Finnish Army)

The Finns developed their own rifle based on the AK47. More accurate than the standard Kalashnikov (it has a sight radius of double the AK47), it is very popular with its users. One unusual feature is the open three prong flash hider which is designed to hold barbed wire until a shot is fired to cut it! The Israeli Galil was based on the Rk62. The updated M76 was an updated version (it can be compared to the AKM in the same way the Rk62 can be compared to the AK47). The M76F has a folding stock. A bullpup version called the M82

was trialled for paratroops but was quickly withdrawn due to poor balance, a tendency to injure the paratrooper on landing and quality control issues with the stock. The few in stores were issued to home guard units during the NATO invasion. They featured sights that were offset to the left of the weapon meaning they had to be fired right handed. It also increased windage errors dramatically at anything other than the zeroed range. Most of the 2000 manufactured were actually manufactured in the United States in 5.56mm as a semi-automatic hunting weapon by Odin International Ltd from 1978 to 1986. Other than the civilian version, all versions may fire rifle grenades. They use a different bayonet to the Soviet pattern. Plans were in place to develop a new rifle in 7.62mmS but these were abandoned on the outbreak of war and production of the M76 increased.

						Recoil				
						SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag					
Rk62	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	7	55	Excellent	\$350 (S/C)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.6	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
						SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag					
M76	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	7	60	Excellent	\$350 (S/C)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.6	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
						SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag					
M76F	5	3D6	1-nil	4	30	3	8	35	Excellent	\$375 (S/C)
stock	5	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	7	60	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.6	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
						SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag					
M82	5	3D6	1-nil	4	30	3	8	50	Average	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.3	Mag	30 box	Notes	In windy conditions range is treated as 35			

						Recoil				
						SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag					
M82(US)	5	3D6	1-nil	4	30	3	-	50	Poor	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	3.3	Mag	30 box	Notes	In windy conditions range is treated as 35			

SKS Carbine

Initially issued at the same time as the AK47 was the semi-automatic SKS Carbine (initially intended as a replacement if the radical AK47 design failed to work, it was quickly sidelined). This was also 7.62x39mm weapon firing from a ten round fixed magazine fed by a stripper clip. Long out of front line military service it was still frequently encountered during the war as it was still manufactured in 1995 as a sporting weapon and large numbers were still available in storage. In January 1997 the decision was taken to take over stocks of the weapon for issuing to many of the hastily formed militia units in Poland (at least some of these were of German post-unification manufacture as the factory was captured briefly in early December 1996). In addition in the west, large numbers were taken out of storage and issued to German Territorial units in the western part of the country as a stop-gap measure. Most

versions had a folding bayonet that folds under the barrel. Yugoslavia and North Korea both produced rifle grenade launching variants (although they were different designs). In China the Type 63, SKS-D and SKS-M (all functionally identical) were manufactured that allowed the use of AK47 magazines but these had a number of feed problems as did the shorter barreled Type 84. The Type 81 could also accept the AK magazine but had a three round burst setting (although this was unsatisfactory and the weapon soon abandoned). In total China has produced over eight million SKS carbines of all variants. When SKS carbines were issued from storage a problem was reported where the floating pin firing pin could stick in the forward position. When this happened the weapon would start of fire automatically until the magazine was empty. This could also occur if the triangular firing pin was inserted upside down incorrectly.



Illustration 23: Reissued Soviet poster showing the parts of the SKS (Courtesy of Small Arms School Corps, Warminster)

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
SKS		SA	3D6	1-nil	5	10	3	-	50	Good	\$150 (C/C)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	4	Mag	10 int	Notes					

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Type63/ SKS-D/ SKS-M		SA	3D6	1-nil	5	30	3	-	50	Poor	\$175 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes					

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Type 81	3	3D6	1-nil	5	10	3	5	50	Poor	\$200 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Type 81-1	3	3D6	1-nil	4/5	10	3	5	50	Poor	\$225 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Type 84	SA	3D6	1-nil	4	30	4	-	35	Poor	\$200 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.5	Mag	30 box	Notes				

Confusingly the Chinese copied both the SKS and AK47, naming them the Type 56 Carbine and Type 56 Assault Rifle respectively (to add to the confusion the RPK copy was known as the Type 56 Light Machine Gun!). The SKS and Type 56 Carbine are functionally identical and the parts are interchangeable. They can be told apart quickly by looking at the front sight, Chinese weapons have a fully hooded front sight blade protector, whilst Russian rifles have two rounded blades with a gap at the top (this applies to all the family including the AK47, RPK, etc.).

Mosin-Nagant



Illustration 24: Polish farmer with Mosin-Nagant M1891/30 (Polish Free Congress)

Prior to the SKS the Soviets (and before them the Czarists) had used the bolt-action Mosin-Nagant in a number of versions. With typical Soviet thoroughness they stored large numbers. Many were disposed of as hunting weapons, some in storage were issued as surrogate sniper rifles (often with a modified turn-down bolt that did not interfere with the scope). Some Pact nations had them held in reserve for militia units, Bulgaria even still issued them to the 101st Alpine Battalion. It has an integral magazine but is usually loaded from 5 round stripper clips (treat as a box magazine). If a scope is fitted rounds need to be reloaded individually as the scope blocks the stripper clip.

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						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Mosin Nagant (rifle)		BA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	5i	3	-	75	Excellent	\$250 (R/S)
Ammo	7.62R	Wt	4.6	Mag	5 integral	Notes	Scope adds 15m to base range for aimed fire only				

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Mosin Nagant (carbine)		BA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	5i	3	-	65	Excellent	\$250 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62R	Wt	4	Mag	5 integral	Notes	Scope adds 15m to base range for aimed fire only				

M48

After the Second World War Yugoslavia developed a new rifle based on the German Mauser K98K. This was almost identical although few parts were common to both designs. From 1956 it was manufactured solely for export until production ended in 1965. In typical fashion, much of the stock was stored and rotated on a five year basis (although by 1996 when they were pulled from storage many were still in their original manufactured condition). The integral magazine may be reloaded using stripper clips (treat as box magazine). No dedicated sniper version was developed but a number were converted during the Twilight War.

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M48		BA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	5i	3	-	75	Excellent	\$250 (R/S)
Ammo	7.92mm	Wt	3.9	Mag	5 integral	Notes	Scope adds 15m to base range for aimed fire only				



Illustration 25: CIA backed Yugoslav militiaman with M48 near Split 1998 (CIA Archives)

Kar98k

During the Second World War a large number of German Kar98ks were captured by the Russians. These were frequently given to friendly countries as a deniable resource into the 1970s. Despite this a large number remained in Soviet stockpiles in 1995. Many were issued to factory militia units (mainly as a morale boosting measure although it was noticeable that issues increased as NATO neared the Soviet Union). Some were also issued as surrogate sniper rifles in Poland and China (most but not all of these are scoped). The integral magazine may be reloaded using stripper clips (treat as box magazine). Yugoslavia still had refurbished versions on issue to the militia at the start of the war in addition to the locally manufactured M48. Despite being called a carbine, the length is that of a rifle (it was a shortened version of the Gew98, the rifle version used previously).



Illustration 26: Intriguing photo of three Soviet recon troops in Iran in late 1999, one carries an unscoped Kar98k - an unusual weapon for this theatre and role. It has been suggested that it could have been obtained from local sources or the unit had transferred there from Poland or China. (SovPhoto)

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Kar98k		BA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	5i	3	-	75	Excellent	\$250 (R/S)
Ammo	7.92mm	Wt	3.9	Mag	5 integral	Notes	Scope adds 15m to base range for aimed fire only				

AS96

Possibly the least known Soviet rifle was the Steyr AUG which is known in Soviet circles as the AS96 (Avtomat Steyr 96). The Steyr production facilities were taken over relatively intact and production was continued with most of the production going to the KGB although a percentage appear to have gone to line of communication troops. Initial production was the standard Austrian version but some later production was slightly modified to allow the fitting of the standard Soviet bayonet (the original rifle had no fittings for any bayonet). Plans to create a 5.45mm version appear to have been dropped after the factory was badly damaged by Tornados of Jagdbombergeschwader 33. Unusually for a bullpup rifle it is fully ambidextrous (although the bolt must be changed). No change lever is fitted, instead pulling the trigger fully back initiates full automatic fire.



Illustration 27: Rare picture of Soviet KGB troops with AS96 (without bayonet lugs) - these appear to be the shorter AS96U 16" carbine versions. This has often been claimed in black and white prints to be of rear area troops but the blue shoulder boards of this coloured original clearly indicate KGB troops. City of Hanover Museum

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AS96		5	3D6	1-nil	4	30	3	7	50	Good	\$400 (S/R)
Ammo	5.56	Wt	3.6	Mag	30 box	Notes					

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AS96U		5	3D6	1-nil	3	30	3	8	45	Good	\$400 (R/R)
Ammo	5.56	Wt	3.3	Mag	30 box	Notes					

Rifle grenade launchers



Illustration 28: Yugoslavian grenade launching variant. Note the grenade launching sight. SASC Museum

Prior to the issue of the BG15, a number of variations of the AK series existed to fire rifle grenades. The Poles for example used the Kbkz wz1960 and later versions. This looked like a standard AK but with an extended

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ribbed barrel and the ability to fit a thick rubber recoil pad (firing a rifle grenade without this pad is VERY painful and can even cause a broken shoulder – in game terms AVG(STR) or 1D6 damage). To launch rifle grenades a special ten round magazine was used which would not accept ball ammunition. Prior to firing the firer had to adjust the valve on the right side of the gas block to stop any gas escaping. This forced all the gas down the barrel to propel the rifle grenade. This was only produced in 7.62S but normal and the occasional folding stocked versions exist. These were still in service with units not issued the BG15/GP25/GP30. The statistics below can be used for any county's variants. Grenades could be either anti-tank (HEAT) or anti-personnel (HE).



Illustration 29: Kbkz Wz1960 showing butt padding and special 10 round magazine. Note the slightly different muzzle compared to the Yugoslavian version. Warsaw Collection.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Kbkz wz1960	5	3D6	2-nil	5	30	3	8	50	Excellent	\$350 (R/S)
rifle grenade	SA	-	-	5	10	10	-	-	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.75	Mag	10/30 box	Notes	Grenade recoil is halved using the stock held against the ground.			

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Kbkz wz1960/72 folding stock	5	3D6	2-nil	4	30	3	10	40	Excellent	\$375 (R/S)
stock	5	3D6	2-nil	5	30	3	8	50	Excellent	
rifle grenade	SA	-	-	4/5	10	12	-	-	Excellent	Without stock recoil 16
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	3.75	Mag	10/30 box	Notes	Grenade recoil is halved using the stock held against the ground.			

Saiga 12



Illustration 30: Pre-war Volgograd Militiaman with Saiga12 with 10 round magazine. Police International Review

Despite not being a rifle but a shotgun, this weapon is included here as it is heavily based on the Kalashnikov action and it was the only shotgun officially used by the Soviet military. It had a switch for adjusting the gas parts to allow the firing of normal high powered rounds or lower powered specialist rounds (if the switch is set incorrectly, the action will not cycle when firing lower power rounds creating an automatic stoppage, if firing higher power rounds, recoil is increased by 50% rounded up). Initially issued to the militia (police) it was issued to

infantry fighting in built up areas after the 1995/6 experiences in fighting in Chinese built up areas. Initially issued with ten round magazines, soldiers often acquired civilian pattern five and eight round versions to supplement the five they were issued. In early 1997 twenty round drum magazines were seen issued with three fitting in a satchel type pouch. At around the same time



Illustration 31: Saiga 12SU with new lower profile sights Warsaw Collection



Illustration 32: Saiga12 captured and used by the US 10th SFG. It has a new hand guard to allow the fitting of a torch under the barrel, a AN/SGS2 non-magnifying sight and a but shot holder. Underneath are a 5 round magazine, a 10 round magazine and a 20 round drum. DoD

a folding stock version the Saiga 12S (using the same stock as the AKS74) began to be issued. In mid 1997 another variant appeared, the Saiga 12SU which was a shorter barrelled version with a folding stock. As they fired the standard 12 bore shotgun shell they were often seen used by NATO soldiers after they were captured as the ammunition was easily available in the west.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Saiga 12	SA	5D6	3-4-Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	2	-	35	Good	\$400 (R/S)
Buckshot close	SA	9D6	Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	2	-	35	Good	
Buckshot medium	10	1D6	Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	2	-	35	Good	
Ammo	12 bore	Wt	4	Mag	5/8/10 box 20 drum	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Saiga 12S	SA	5D6	3-4-Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	2	-	35	Good	\$425 (R/S)
Buckshot close	SA	9D6	Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	2	-	35	Good	
Buckshot medium	10	1D6	Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	2	-	35	Good	
Ammo	12 bore	Wt	3.75	Mag	5/8/10 box 20 drum	Notes	If stock not used recoil increases to 5			

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Saiga 12SU	SA	5D6	3-4-Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	3	-	25	Good	\$400 (R/S)
Buckshot close	SA	9D6	Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	3	-	25	Good	
Buckshot medium	10	1D6	Nil	5	5/8/ 10/20	3	-	25	Good	
Ammo	12 bore	Wt	3.2	Mag	5/8/10 box 20 drum	Notes	If stock not used recoil increases to 7			

2. Grenade launchers



Illustration 33: BG15 mounted on an AK74. SovPhoto

BG15/GP25/GP30

Often seen mounted under the barrel of the AK series was the BG15 or GP25 (these differed only in the sighting system). There was also a slightly lighter updated version known as the GP30). Very similar in concept to the M203 series, these fired a low powered 40mm round (different to that used by NATO) that is muzzle loaded. Rounds available were fragmentation, bouncing fragmentation, four types of smoke (an initial general purpose one, followed by three versions dedicated to

50,100 and 200m ranges), CS gas and baton. It is rumoured that a HEDP equivalent was produced but no example of this has been seen. Barrel life was quoted as 400 rounds, many have exceeded this and there have been unconfirmed reports that casualties have been caused by worn weapon use.

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
BG15/ GP25/ GP30	1	1i	100	Fragmentation	C:3 B:12	Nil	Good	\$700 (-/S) \$725 (-/S) - GP30
			100	Bouncing fragmentation	C:2 B:16	Nil	Good	
			45	Smoke	C:1 B:4	Nil	Good	
			50	CS	C:1 B:4	Nil	Good	
			50	Baton	C:1 B:0	Nil	Good	
			75	HEDP	B:4	4C	Good	
Wt	1.5 (GP30 1.3)	Ammo wt	0.3	IFR range	300	Notes	HEDP data provisional	

AGS17

In the late 1960s the Soviets developed the AGS17 automatic grenade launcher in response to experiences fighting the Chinese (where human wave tactics were expected) and after reports from Vietnam where the Americans were deploying the early versions



Illustration 34: AGS17 in action near Lodz 2000. Note the non-disintegrating belt coming from the drum. 5th Division Historical Association

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of their own launchers. Popular in Afghanistan they were a lightweight weapon for the short range firepower they gave. It may only be fired from a vehicle mount or a Pact Medium Tripod (PMT).

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
AGS17	5	30 belted drum	150	Fragmentation	C:2 B:12	Nil	Good	\$3000 (R/S)
Wt	18	Ammo	30mm gren	IFR range	1700	Notes		



Illustration 35: AGS17 team on the banks of the Vistula - autumn 2000. SovPhoto

3. Pistols

Makarov PM

Most of the Warsaw Pact used the Makarov PM pistol. This was a Russian development of the Walther PP. Interestingly the weapon is capable of firing .380ACP/9mm short ammunition but it is very inaccurate beyond short range (after short range treat each range as being one further away than it is). This does not appear to be a design feature but was discovered by an American



Illustration 36: Soviet training poster for the Makarov PM (Courtesy of Small Arms School Corps, Warminster)



Illustration 37: Makarov PM with issued holster (Courtesy of the Royal Armouries, Portsmouth)

converted to make it.

shooter and author in the early 1990s when he could not obtain 9mmM ammo. It has been used to great effect by Texan guerrillas fighting Division Cuba as .380 is easier to obtain. The weapon is quite common in Germany as manufacture actually continued in the eastern part of the country after reunification (indeed it was issued as a stopgap measure during expansion of the army as the P9). In 1990 Soviet engineers developed the PMM version with improved hand-grips and other minor changes. This version had 10 and 12 round magazines and was capable of firing both the old cartridge and the higher powered 9mmM+ cartridge. This weapon was only slowly coming into service until production was ramped up when the war started and few were made as it appears that only one factory was ever

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PM	SA	1D6	Nil	1	8	3	-	10	Average	\$100 (S/V)
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	0.5	Mag	8 box	Notes				

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PMM		SA	1D6	Nil	1	10/ 12	3	0	10	Average	\$125 (R/S)
Using 9mmM+		SA	1D8	Nil	1	10/ 12	4	0	12	Average	
Ammo	9mmM/ 9mmM+	Wt	0.5	Mag	10/12 box	Notes					

PB Pistol

This variant of the PM Makarov is sufficiently different to warrant a separate entry. It was a shortened version of the Makarov with a



Illustration 39: Soviet Naval Infantryman on a range practice with PB pistol. TASS

removable silencer (designed to allow ease of carrying) which fitted into a separate pocket of the holster (it can not be carried in this with the silencer fitted). It was first issued in 1967 but was not particularly well known in the west. Magazines



Illustration 38: SASC Museum Collection PB pistol - this was acquired after a firefight with SSD-706 outside Plymouth in mid 1997.

were the standard Makarov pattern. It was issued to the KGB and army reconnaissance units. While not the most efficient silencer designed it did appreciably reduce noise.

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PB		SA	1D6	Nil	1	8	4	-	10	Average	\$100 (S/V)
With silencer		SA	1D6-1	Nil	2	8	2	-	6	Average	
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	0.5	Mag	8 box	Notes	Silencer weighs 0.5				

TT33 Tokarev

Occasionally encountered was the 1930s era TT33 Tokarev. This went out of front line service in Russia in the late 1950s but was still seen occasionally in reservist units and in the less well off countries such as Romania. It was still on issue to both Chinese (Type 54) and North Korean (Type 68) troops throughout the war. It is

infamous for not having a safety catch. Yugoslav versions (M57) use a 9 round magazine.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
TT33	SA	1D6	Nil	1	8	3	-	10	Good	\$100 (S/C)
Ammo	7.62T	Wt	0.5	Mag	8 box	Notes				



Illustration 40: TT33 Tokarev with issue holster (courtesy of the Royal Armouries, Portsmouth)

PSM



Illustration 41: PSM from the SASC Museum Collection. Note the very pointed nature of the small 5.45mmP round

A special purpose pistol created by the firm of Izhmekh intended for concealability. It looks very much like a scaled down version of the Makarov. It uses a very small cartridge the 5.45x18mm round developed for this pistol. This took an unusual approach to dealing with the traditional low damage, the designers realised that the main difficulty was poor penetration. As a result they designed the small round to have excellent penetrative abilities. It was issued to specialist units, the KGB and the Militia (police) who found it to be useful against criminals wearing body armour.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PSM	SA	2D3	1-Nil	1	8	2	-	10	Good	\$175 (-/R)
Ammo	5.45P	Wt	0.5	Mag	8 box	Notes				

PA63



The Hungarians issued a different handgun, the PA63. This also uses the 9mmM cartridge but it's lighter weight (it was designed as a dual purpose police and military pistol) gives it a higher recoil.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PA63	SA	1D6	Nil	1	8	5	-	10	Average	\$100 (R/S)
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	0.4	Mag	8 box	Notes				

Illustration 42: PA63 pistol from the collection of the State of Hanover Collection

P64/P83

Poland instead of using the PM developed its own handgun, the P64. This fired the same cartridge from a six round magazine. Poland was about to replace this with the

P83 when the war intervened and factories planned to convert were left unchanged. It is believed however that at least one unit deployed to China was issued the prototypes.



						Recoil									
						ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
P64						SA	1D6	Nil	1	6	3	-	10	Average	\$100 (S/C)
Ammo	9mm M	Wt	0.5	Mag	6 box	Notes									

Illustration 43: Excerpt from the P64 Manual, Warsaw Collection

						Recoil									
						ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
P83 Wanad						SA	1D6	Nil	1	8	3	-	10	Average	\$100 (-/R)
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	0.5	Mag	8 box	Notes									



Illustration 44: P83 Wanad from the Warsaw Collection

Vz52



Illustration 45: Vz52 from the Vienna Museum of Modern History

The Czechoslovakians also issued their own pistol, the Vz52. This was unusual in that it used the earlier 7.62mmT cartridge. The use of a high powered cartridge (made even higher in Czechoslovakian service using the 7.62mmT+ loading) in a small weapon produced a high muzzle blast and recoil which made the weapon unpopular. A drop safety resulted in a very high trigger pressure being required and this further reduced accuracy. This was still in service in reserve units although the Vz82 had largely replaced it in first line units.

						Recoil									
						ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz52						SA	1D6	Nil	1	8	4	-	12	Average	\$100 (R/S)
Using 7.62T+						SA	1D8	Nil	1	8	6	-	12	Average	
Ammo	7.62T/ 7.62T+	Wt	0.5	Mag	8 box	Notes									

Vz82

The Vz82 replaced the Vz52 in front line service during the 1980s and was the main Czech pistol of the war. It was a 9mmM weapon with a large capacity 12 round magazine.



						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz82	SA	1D6	Nil	1	12	3	-	12	Good	\$150 (R/S)
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	0.8	Mag	12 box	Notes				

Illustration 46: Excerpt from the Czechoslovakian training manual (picture courtesy of Maj (Rtd) Lionel Morgan (SASC))

Vz75/85



Illustration 47: Official Czech photo of a soldier using the Vz75 in special forces selection

As the war progressed, the Czechoslovakians found themselves desperately short of pistols. As a result a number of Cz75 pistols that had been manufactured for export were pressed into service as the Vz75. The Cz85 (an improved version with an ambidextrous safety and improved finish) was also taken into service although it was less common. In game terms they are identical. Both were also common in the west and among civilian shooters in Czechoslovakia.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz75/ Vz85	SA	1D8	Nil	1	16	3	-	12	Good	\$200 (S/S)
Ammo	9mmP	Wt	1	Mag	16 box	Notes				



CZ99

In 1990 the Yugoslav Army decided to update the TT33 pistols that were the current issue. Crvena Zastava was given the contract to produce a more modern pistol (the CZ name comes from this and there is no link to the Czechoslovakian manufacturer). Produced in 9mmP it was not widely issued and never came close to replacing the TT33 but it was popular with CIA agents and paramilitary teams in Yugoslavia.

Illustration 48: Photo courtesy of ex-CIA paramilitary officer "John Smith"

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
CZ99	SA	1D8	Nil	1	15	2	-	12	Good	\$200 (-/-)
Ammo	9mmP	Wt	1	Mag	15 box	Notes				

PG17

When the Soviets invaded Austria, they captured the Glock factory. As a result they captured and issued the Glock pistols to rear area troops. The most popular of these was the Glock 17 which was issued as the Pistol, Glock Model 17 or PG17. Despite the fact that the 9mm Parabellum round was not a normal part of the supply chain, the weapon was popular with Soviet troops and many found their way into front line service (where ammunition was easier to obtain).



Illustration 49: Typically dull finished Glock 17 as used by the Soviets as the PG17, normally the weapon had a matt black finish. Ukrainian Armed Forces Museum

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PG17	SA	1D8	Nil	1	17	2	-	12	Good	\$225 (S/S)
Ammo	9mmP		Wt	1	Mag	17 box	Notes			



Illustration 50: Intriguing photograph of a Soviet major in Russia in mid 1997 with a TT33 Tokarev. This has caused much controversy as no sources show these weapons as being issued this early to units in China. It has been suggested that it is in fact a souvenir and a Chinese copy (or supplied by the Soviets prior to the falling out between the countries). Ian Kopp has suggested it may have been from a Bulgarian unit but no evidence of this has been produced. Careful examination of the photo shows that rather than mid battle (as suggested by the burning APC), this is probably a posed shot – the figures on the left appear to be testing a push bike – hardly something they were likely to do under fire! They are frequently air brushed out of reproductions. Until further evidence comes to light this photo will remain a mystery. Pravda

4. Sub-machine guns

AKMSU



Illustration 51: AKMSU armed Texan resistance fighter throwing a grenade into a Mexican position in the film Texas: Salvation (2029) the third film in director Louise Drevan's Texas trilogy.

was however more popular in Romania where a local copy was widely issued as the PM md90. Some Russian versions had a strange fore-end with a small vertical grip with a thumb hole designed to aid controlling the muzzle climb although many users removed this unergonomic design. The design is incapable of fitting either a bayonet or a grenade launcher.

Designed in the 1950s as a close quarter battle weapon (although the term was not yet invented). Firing the same 7.62mm round as it's larger relative, the weapon was never popular in the Soviet Union due to the fierce recoil and inaccuracy beyond short range. It was however copied in very limited numbers by a number of Pact countries. It



Illustration 52: AKMSU from the Warsaw Collection

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKMSU	5	3D6	1-nil	3	30	3	10	25	Good	\$280 (R/S)
stock	5	3D6	1-Nil	4	30	2	8	30	Good	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				

AKS74U

When the AK74 was introduced, so was a new shorter version of weapon, the AKS74U (or AKSU or AKR) which was a short barrelled sub-machine gun version with the same folding stock and a new conical flash suppressor. This was notoriously inaccurate and unpopular except for specialist use. It was also used extensively by the militia. It is incapable of fitting either a bayonet or grenade launcher.



Illustration 53: Soviet Naval Infantryman with AKS74U. SovPhoto.

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
AKSU/ AKS74U/ AKR		5	2D8	1-nil	3	30	4	12	25	Good	\$300 (S/C)
stock		5	2D8	1-nil	4	30	3	8	30		
Ammo	5.45	Wt	3.5	Mag	30 box	Notes					

PP19 Bizon (Bison)

Developed from the AKSU74, this version used a helical magazine mounted under the barrel containing 64 9mmM rounds (although the weapon was blowback instead of gas operated). Designed by a team including Victor Kalashnikov (son of Mikhail) and Alexi Dragunov (son of



Illustration 55: PP19 without silencer, the AK heritage is obvious. SASC Museum Collection

Evgeny), it was intended for internal security use although it quickly became popular with troops involved in urban combat with the large magazine. Despite this it was never widespread as the weapon had only entered service in 1995.

A silencer could be added for special operations use. This costs \$100, weighs 1 and is rare.



Illustration 54: Reconstruction of SD702 Spetsnaz soldier from the Imperial War Museum, Portsmouth (the weapon was recovered from the body of Junior Lt Yuri Abdulin

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PP19 Bizon		5	1D8	Nil	3	64	1	3	12	Good	\$350 (-S)
stock		5	1D8	Nil	4	64	1	2	20		
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	2.1	Mag	64 box	Notes					

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PP19 Bizon (silenced)		5	1D6-1	Nil	4	64	1	2	12	Good	\$350 (-/S)
stock		5	1D6-1	Nil	5	64	1	2	20		
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	3.1	Mag	64 box	Notes					

Vz61

The Czechoslovakians produced the pistol/SMG hybrid Vz61 Scorpion. Unusually this fired a western cartridge, the .32ACP. Capable of full automatic fire and having a flimsy folding wire stock, this was issued to vehicle crews, some officers and special forces. It is worth noting that two magazines were issued, 10 and 20 round, but the weapon would only fit in the issued holster with the ten round magazine fitted. Another quirk was the vertical ejection which results in cartridge cases falling on the firer's head about a second after firing. This can be very disconcerting for those unused to it. It was designed at the outset to be fitted with a silencer.



Illustration 56: Polish para on patrol with silenced Vz61. Warsaw Collection

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz61	5	1D6	Nil	1	10/20	3	7	10	Average	\$250 (R/S)
With stock	5	1D6	Nil	3	10/20	2	4	12	Average	
With silencer	5	1D6-1	Nil	2	10/20	2	6	8	Average	
With stock and silencer	5	1D6-1	Nil	4	10/20	1	3	10	Average	
Ammo	.32 ACP	Wt	1.6	Mag	10 or 20 box	Notes	Silencer \$250 (-/R) Wt 1			

APS Stechkin

The Russians similarly developed the 9mmM APS Stechkin, this pistol featured a wooden holster/stock (similar to the C96 Mauser). Unpopular due to massive recoil on automatic (even the manual suggested using the stock and only firing in the prone position), this was replaced by the AKS74U as a compact assault weapon. In the 1970s, a special version, the APB was issued. This featured a metal holster/stock and provision for a specially



Illustration 57: APS Stechkin from the collection of the Small Arms School Corps, Warminster

developed silencer. This was popular with Special Forces units. APS stocks were reissued to lower level reservist units as an emergency measure. They were popular as a primary weapon among drivers who could not obtain an AK series weapon in areas where guerilla attacks were common. Romania copied the design as the Dracula Model 98 which allowed the fitting of a second magazine at the front of the weapon as a second grip (this reduces recoil by a extra 1 for automatic fire if both hands are

used). No other countries copied or used the APS other than Romania where it was known as the Dracula and featured the option to mount a second magazine as a front grip.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
APS	5	1D6	Nil	1	20	5	13	10	Average	\$250 (R/S)
With stock	5	1D6	Nil	3	20	3	8	15	Average	
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	1	Mag	20 box	Notes	Stock/holster wt 0.8			

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
APB	5	1D6	Nil	1	20	5	13	10	Average	\$275 (-/R)
With stock	5	1D6	Nil	3	20	3	8	15	Average	
With silencer	5	1D6-1	Nil	2	20	4	10	8	Average	
With stock and silencer	5	1D6-1	Nil	4	20	2	6	12	Average	
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	1	Mag	20 box	Notes	Stock holster wt 0.8 Silencer Wt 1 \$250 (-/R)			

PM63RAK



Illustration 58: PM63RAK from Polish Airborne Forces Museum, Czechstowa

A dedicated Polish sub-machine gun was produced using the 9mmM ammunition. This was the PM63RAK. This weapon bears some similarity with the Israeli Uzi in outline and is issued with 15 and 25 round magazines. Popular for its small size it was issued to both the police and military. An unlicensed Chinese copy exists. A silenced version was created to at least prototype form but it is unknown if it was ever issued to the special forces it was intended for. It has a progressive trigger instead of a change lever and the folding stock can double as a hand grip when folded. Produced from 1963 to 1974 it was occasionally encountered in reservist hands or more commonly in ORMO units.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PM63RAK	5	1D8	Nil	2	15/ 25	3	8	12	Average	\$350 (R/S)
stock	5	1D8	Nil	3	15/ 25	2	4	20	Average	
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	1.8kg	Mag	15/25 box	Notes				

PM84 Glauberyt



Illustration 59: PM84 from the Warsaw Collection

From 1984 the PM63 was slowly replaced by the PM84 Glauberyt. This very compact 9mmM SMG was a similar concept to the Czech Vz61 although slightly larger in size. It was a popular weapon among troops that needed a last ditch weapon and among special forces on covert operations.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PM84	5	1D8	Nil	1	15/ 25	3	8	12	Average	\$375 (R/S)
stock	5	1D8	Nil	3	15/ 25	2	4	20	Average	
Ammo	9mmM	Wt	1.8kg	Mag	15/25 box	Notes				

KP/-31

Before the Second World War the Finns produced the KP/-31 SMG in 9mmP. Initially issued in the role of an LMG it was not successful but when switched the the SMG role (being replaced with captured Russian DP LMGs) it proved to be a great success. It was retained in production until 1953 but a firing port version lacking a barrel shroud and stock remained in armories throughout the 1980s (possibly due to a bureaucratic mistake as the vehicle they were from retired in 1959!). These (along with normal versions) were pulled from stores and reissued to militia units when NATO crossed the frontier. Norway had also used the normal version in the Navy and Home Guard until the 1980s and some were reissued in 1996 to the Home Guard.



Illustration 60: An image almost straight out of World War Two showing a Norwegian militiaman with KP/-31. Royal Norwegian Home Guard Museum

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
KP/-31	5	1D8	Nil	3	20/36/40/50/71	1	3	15	Good	\$325 (-/R)
Ammo	9mmP	Wt	4.6kg	Mag	20/36/40/50/71 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
KP/-31 firing port version	5	1D8	Nil	2	20/36/40/50/71	2	8	10	Good	\$300 (-/-)
Ammo	9mmP	Wt	3kg	Mag	20/36/40/	Notes				

					50/71 box		
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Illustration 61: US Ranger OPFOR with PPSH41 in May 1996 (Department of Defence)

PPSh41

The Soviets no longer produced a dedicated infantry issue sub-machine gun but there were two long obsolete types that were very occasionally seen, the first was the PPSH41 famous from the Second World War for its round drum magazine. It is a remarkably good weapon for one designed to be made by a blacksmith that often had a barrel made by cutting a worn out rifle barrel in half! It was so popular as a captured weapon that it was the

second most common sub-machine gun in the German army in World War Two. Yugoslavia produced the M49 sub-machine gun that despite differences in game terms is functionally identical and can use the same magazines.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PPSh41	5	1D8	Nil	4	35/ 71	1	4	25	Excellent	\$400 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62mm T	Wt	5.3	Mag	35 box or 71 drum	Notes	Good reliability if more than 65 rounds are loaded.			

Encountered in the 1997 fighting in Poland were sawn-off PPSH41s. These had the stock cut back into a pistol grip and the barrel shortened. Encountered in border guard units it was rumoured that these were issued to them like this, later reports indicated that the weapons were emergency issue weapons that were captured from criminals and taken from police armouries. This was confirmed by later captures of such weapons from ORMU units.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PPSh41 – cut down	5	1D6	Nil	2	35/ 71	2	7	15	Excellent	\$400 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62mm T	Wt	3	Mag	35 box or 71 drum	Notes	Good reliability if more than 65 rounds are loaded.			

PPSh43



Illustration 62: Marine from 2nd Marine Division with PPSH43 - Baltic Coast Summer 2000 [Courtesy of the private collection of Oliver North]

The PPSH41 was followed by the simplified PPSH43. This lost the ability to use the drum but gained a folding stock. It was even cruder but just as reliable. This was manufactured in Poland into the 1970s and remained in service until 1980. It was a common sight in ORMO hands. In addition the Poles also produced a heavier version with a fixed stock to try and increase the effective range of the weapon.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PPSh43	5	1D8	Nil	2	35	3	8	15	Good	\$350 (R/C)
stock	5	1D8	Nil	2	35	1	5	25		
Ammo	7.62 mmT	Wt	3.9	Mag	35 box	Notes	Polish version Wt 4.5, recoil 1/4 Rng 28 \$400 (-/R)			

M56

Inspired by the MP40 sub-machine-gun, Yugoslavia produced the M56, a similar design in 7.62T. Even the four magazine pouch was copied from the German three pouch pattern. It was unusual for an SMG in that it could fit a bayonet. This was still in service at the outbreak of the war.



Illustration 63: M56 from the Serbian Memorial Museum

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M56	5	1D8	Nil	2	35	3	8	15	Good	\$350 (-/R)
stock	5	1D8	Nil	3	35	1	4	25		
Ammo	7.62 mmT	Wt	3	Mag	35 box	Notes				



Vz24/Vz26

The Czechoslovakians developed the Vz24 sub-machine gun in 1948 which heavily inspired the Uzi (including the wrap around bolt). There was also a Vz26 with a folding stock. It was occasionally found in reserve units.

Illustration 65: Vz26 from the collection of the Czech Military Museum



Illustration 64: Still from the Czech 2016 film "Death of a Nation" showing the heroine with Vz26

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz24	5	1D8	Nil	2	32	1	5	15	Good	\$325 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62mmT	Wt	3.9kg	Mag	32 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz26	5	1D8	Nil	2	32	1	5	15	Good	\$350 (R/S)
stock	5	1D8	Nil	2	32	1	3	25		
Ammo	7.62mmT	Wt	3.9kg	Mag	32 box	Notes				



Illustration 66: Czechoslovakian reservist with Vz24 during Operation Mornington Crescent. Slovak Public Affairs Bureau

5. Sniper rifles

SVD Dragunov

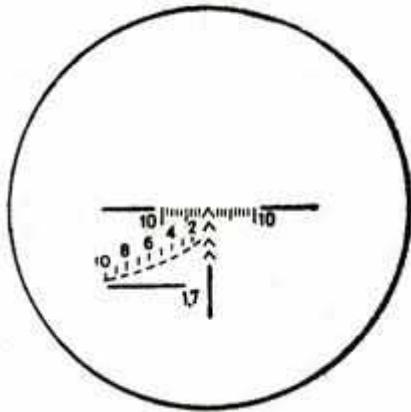


Illustration 68: The view through an SVD's PSO1 scope

For sniping almost all Pact countries used the Dragunov SVD rifle in 7.62mmR. This uses the PSO-1 optical sight. This was issued on a scale of one per platoon as a designated marksman's rifle. Despite looking very similar externally to the AK series, this is cosmetic as the internal workings are quite different. A short version with a folding stock (similar to the AK74) known as the SVD-S was issued to paratroops. A bullpup version known as the SVU was in



Illustration 67: Official photo of a Soviet sniper with SVD in China January 1996. It has been pointed out that the figure walking in the background probably makes this a posed inshot. SovPhoto

development and may or may not have been fielded (this was originally designed for internal security groups). Unusually for a sniper rifle all versions had fittings for a bayonet. Former East German models were issued to some units of the German Army as the G16Z. In 1997 a new armour piercing round was issued to deal with the improved NATO body armour being encountered, the 7N16 which improves the Pen to 1-2-3. At about the same time a bipod (known as the B2-01) was issued although it was never widespread. If used it increases the range by 10 and reduces the recoil by 1. The standard version was copied in China as the Types 79 and 85 (both identical in games terms).

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
SVD	SA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	10	4	-	75	Good	\$500 (S/C)
Ammo	7.62L	Wt	4.6	Mag	10 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots			

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
SVD-S	SA	4D6	2-3-nil	5	10	5	-	40	Good	\$550 (-/S)
stock	SA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	10	4	-	75	Good	
Ammo	7.62L	Wt	4.3	Mag	10 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots			

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
SVU	SA	4D6	2-3-nil	4	10	4	-	70	Good	\$800 (-/-)
Ammo	7.62L	Wt	4	Mag	10 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots			



Illustration 69: SVU from the Tokyo Collection, if it was captured in the Japan-Russian fighting or bought by traders in the 2000s is unknown.



Illustration 70: SVU undergoing trials. Note the added B2-O1 bipod. TASS

VSS Vintorez

This was a specialist silenced sniper rifle



Illustration 71: VSS Vintorez from the Tokyo Collection

an unsilenced .22 round. Issued to specialist troops it was quite popular although ammunition was in short supply by 1999. The round like the 5.45 round tended to tumble due to an air space in the nose. There was a specialist AP round available (which has a pen of 1-nil and a damage of 3D4 as the round did not have the air space). Mechanically and in layout the VSS Vintorez was very similar to a normal AK although the selector lever was separate from the safety catch and was placed inside the trigger guard. Unusually for a sniper rifle it was capable of fully automatic fire, when it usually used the 20 round magazine from the AS Val (instead of the standard 10 round magazine it was issued with). It could be fully disassembled to fit inside a briefcase. It uses the standard PSO-1 scope but the reduced power of the round makes this less effective.

developed in the 1980s based on the AS Val. It fired a special subsonic 9x39mm cartridge (based on a 7.62x39mm cartridge with the neck enlarged) through a suppressor which reduced the noise to approximately the sound of



Illustration 72: Spetsnaz sniper with VSS Vintorez in the Aleutian Islands May 1999. As he is lacking camouflage and from the photographer's position this is almost definitely a posed photograph. Pravda

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
VSS Vintrez		5	2D6	1-nil	5	10/20	1	3	40	Excellent	
Ammo	9mmSS	Wt	2.6	Mag	10/20 box	Notes	Scope adds 10m for aimed shots (including a burst)				

PSL



Illustration 73: Romanian sniper in action - late 1998. State Memorial Museum

The only Pact country not to use the SVD as the standard first line sniper rifle was Romania who produced the very similar looking PSL (although no parts are common). This is based on the Kalashnikov action and is very reliable. Accuracy of the PSL varies, it is notorious for variations in accuracy between weapons and marksmen will do anything to hold on to an accurate rifle.

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PSL		SA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	10	4	-	Special	Good	\$500 (S/C)
Ammo	7.62L	Wt	4.6	Mag	10 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots For base range roll 1D6: 1 – 55 2 – 60 3 – 65 4-5 -70 6-75				

Vz54



Illustration 74: Prague Museum Vz54 (note the cut back wood work compared to the Mosin-Nagant)

Whilst the main sniper rifle of the Czechoslovakian forces was the SVD, a number of units (particularly reserve units) were still equipped with the bolt action Vz54 based on the Mosin-Nagant rifle.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz54	BA	4D6	2-3-nil	5	5i	5	-	65	Excellent	\$400 (-/R)
Ammo	7.62L	Wt	4.5	Mag	5 integral	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots			

Zastava M76/M91



Illustration 75: CIA paramilitary officer Mark Clarkson (left) with locally recruited militia in support of CIVGOV forces in Croatia. The central figure is armed with an M76. CIA Archives

The Yugoslavs also produced a different sniper rifle which like the PSL had more in common with the AK series than the SVD. Initially produced in 7.92mm Mauser before changing to 7.62mmR with the M91 which only supplemented the earlier version. It was widespread among the states of the former Yugoslavia. Unlike the SVD it has a pistol grip (this is the easiest way to identify it) although the M91 reverted to an SVD type stock. Both are capable of being fitted with the AK series bayonet. Civilian hunting versions for export in 7.62N and 5.56 were planned but never manufactured with the start of the war.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M76	SA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	10	4	-	75	Good	\$500 (-/-)
Ammo	8mm	Wt	4.6	Mag	10 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots			

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M91	SA	4D6	2-3-nil	6	10	4	-	75	Good	\$500 (-/-)
Ammo	7.62L	Wt	4.6	Mag	10 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots			

PTRS41



Illustration 76: Captured PTRS41 - the bulk of the weapon is obvious. NBC

In Iran, the Soviets encountered the threat of US snipers equipped with .50 calibre sniper rifles. In an attempt to counter this a number of PTRS41 anti-tank rifles were pulled from stores and fitted with scopes in order to counter the threat. Unfortunately the ballistics of the 14.5mm round did not allow weapon to deal with the US threat on equal terms. Interestingly this was exactly the problem that Vasily Zaitsev had encountered when using one in Stalingrad to penetrate the cover of machine gun positions. It did however give the ability to return fire at a distance making US snipers more wary. It did find a role in suppressing light armoured vehicles.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PTRS41	SA	12D6	2-2-3	11	5	12	-	40	Poor	\$1700 (-/R)
bipod	SA	12D6	2-2-3	11	5	6	-	75	Poor	
Ammo	14.5	Wt	22	Mag	5 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots			

SVC



Illustration 77: SVC from the SASC Museum Collection

Inspired by heavy western use of .50 cal sniper rifles and the negative experiences with the PTRS41, the Soviets developed the SVC (special'naja vintovka celi – Special Purpose Rifle) based around the 12.7mm cartridge. A semi-automatic design with a ten round magazine it was not issued in the same way as the SVD to platoon marksmen but to designated sniper pairs (with the second equipped with an SVD). Never popular due to its bulk and weight it was only ever used in Soviet service.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
SVC	SA	9D6	2-2-3	7	10	12	-	60	Good	\$1400 (-/S)
bipod						7	-	80	Good	
Ammo	12.7	Wt	12	Mag	10 box	Notes	Scope adds 15m to range for aimed shots			

6. Machine guns and Squad Automatic Weapons



Illustration 78: Soviet RPK gunner Lodz Summer 2000. TASS

RPK/RPK74

Supplementing the AK series were the section support weapons based upon the AK47 and AK74, namely the RPK and RPK74 respectively (there are rumours of an RPK74R but these have never been conclusively proved). These featured a heavier, longer barrel with a non-adjustable bipod, a reshaped shoulder stock and larger magazines (a 40 round curved magazine and a 75 round drum in the RPK and 45 round curved magazines in the RPK74). The magazines are compatible

with the normal weapons (and vice versa) but the 40 and 45 round magazines makes prone fire impossible and the 75 round drum stops both types of stocks from folding.

Units that were equipped with AK47s or AKMs were issued RPKs and those with AK74s were issued RPK74s – at least in theory. Unusually for a machine gun, there was a folding stock version that featured a side hinged wooden stock. This version known as the RPKS and RPKS74 were issued to airborne units. Just prior to the war there was an RPK74M this featured a black plastic hinged stock but was otherwise identically to the RPKS74. During 1997 there was a shortage of sniper rifles so a number of RPKs were converted into surrogate sniper rifles by the addition of a low powered PSO-5 Scope and known as the RPKC (the C standing for стрелок - marksman). This was however limited by the accuracy of the action and the cartridge and was never satisfactory.



Illustration 79: RPK74 poster (courtesy of Small Arms School Corps, Warminster)

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
RPK	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	2	6	60	Excellent	\$800 (S/C)
bipod	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	1	3	75	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	5	Mag	30/40/75 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
RPKS	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	2	6	60	Excellent	\$825 (R/S)
bipod	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	1	3	75	Excellent	
Stock folded	10	3D6	1-nil	5	30/ 40/ 75	3	9	40	Excellent	With bipod recoil 2/5
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	5	Mag	30/40/75 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
RPK74	10	2D8	1-nil	6	30/ 40	2	5	60	Excellent	\$850 (S/C)
bipod	10	2D8	1-nil	6	30/ 40	1	3	75	Excellent	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	4.5	Mag	30/40 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
RPKS74/ RPK74M	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/40	2	5	60	Excellent	\$900 (S/C)
bipod	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40	1	3	75	Excellent	
Stock folded	10	3D6	1-nil	5	30/ 40	3	7	40	Excellent	With bipod recoil 2/5
Ammo	5.45	Wt	4.5	Mag	30/40 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
RPKC	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	2	6	60	Excellent	\$875 (-/S)
bipod	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	1	3	75	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	5	Mag	30/40/75 box	Notes	Scope adds 10m for aimed fire only			

M78

As well as using their own version of the AK series as the Valmet Rk62/M76, the Finns also produced a heavy barrelled version to use as a squad automatic in the same way as the RPK. This was known as the M78. Most were in 7.62mmS although a number were produced in 5.45mm and issued to units as the M79. A number were produced in 5.56mm and issued to stay behind guerilla units in the western part of the country. These were never given an official designation but were known as the M79(5.56) in the west.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M78	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	2	6	60	Excellent	\$800 (-/S)
bipod	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	1	3	75	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	5	Mag	30/40/75 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M79	10	2D8	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	2	5	60	Excellent	\$800 (-/S)
bipod	10	2D8	1-nil	6	30/ 40/ 75	1	3	75	Excellent	
Ammo	5.45	Wt	5	Mag	30/40/75 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M79 (5.56)	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40	2	5	60	Excellent	\$800 (-/R)
bipod	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30/ 40	1	3	75	Excellent	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	5	Mag	30/40/75 box	Notes				



Illustration 80: M77 from the Macedonian Museum of History

Yugoslavian Squad Automatic Weapons

Yugoslavia also manufactured heavy barreled versions of the rifles it produced. All the notes for these apply here. All of the NATO calibre weapons are slightly less reliable than the original versions due to the higher tolerances required by NATO ammo. They are usually not found outside Yugoslavia except for the small numbers

exported.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M77	5	4D6	2-3-nil	6	20	4	8	65	Average	\$900 (-/-)
bipod	5	4D6	2-3-nil	6	20	4	8	80	Average	
Ammo	7.62N	Wt	4.9	Mag	20 box	Notes				

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M82	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30	2	5	65	Excellent	\$950 (-/-)
bipod	10	3D6	1-nil	6	30	1	3	75	Excellent	
Ammo	5.56	Wt	4	Mag	30 box	Notes				

PK/PKM



Illustration 81: Soviet NBC suited trooper with PK in Iran. Pravda

The medium machine gun role was fulfilled by the PK machinegun (and the slightly upgraded PKM). These use the 7.62mmR cartridge in belts of 25 rounds (these could be linked). Unsettlingly for those used to firing western machine guns the empty cases eject from the left of vision of right

handed firers. These were used with no significant modification throughout the Warsaw Pact. Vehicle mounted versions (PKT) were almost a different weapon, featuring a different barrel, removal of the stock, a solenoid trigger and other modifications. Few parts are interchangeable. Most Pact countries used a copy, for example there are Yugoslavian copies known as the M84 (PK) and M86 (PKT) that are functionally identical. Chinese copies were known as the Type 80 (PK) and Type 86 (PKT)



Illustration 82: Two Russian PKMs give covering fire Baltic coast summer 2000. TASS

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PK/PKM/PKT		5	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	2	5	65	Excellent	\$2000 (S/C)
bipod		5	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	1	3	95	Excellent	
tripod		5	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	1	1	125	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62L	Wt	10	Mag	25 belt	Notes					

PKL

In 1996 a new heavily modified version of the PKM was issued based on experiences in China the previous year when infantry were required to assault dug in Chinese infantry and hold against human wave counter attacks in difficult terrain. This version was lightened with a barrel that was not intended for sustained fire and was not usually removed in the field. It was intended to be used in the role of a hybrid squad automatic weapon/general purpose machine gun, almost returning to a light machine gun of pre World War Two vintage (but capable of belt feed from an attached 100, 200 or 250 round box). The barrel tended to overheat quickly with the reduced weight and the lightened bolt to increase the rate of fire) but it gave a heavy amount of fire that was better at penetrating cover than the squad automatic as it fired a full size rifle round. It was designed for firing from the hip using a specially designed sling with the firer holding the bipod (folded out to the side of the weapon and locked into position) during assaults (many user wrapped the legs in hessian sacking for a better grip).

During defensive operations it could have the telescoping stock extended and the box holding the belts removed. Early versions could be attached to a Pact Light Tripod (PLT) but the standard production version removed this feature (it was not issued with a tripod however). Both versions had fittings for a night sight. Popular with the Soviet users, it was not copied by any Pact nation before the nuclear exchanges stopped any capacity to manufacture them. It does have a pronounced muzzle flash which the conical suppressor could not fully alleviate.



Illustration 83: PKL (left) with stock extended and 100 round belt carrier. Note the brown sling fitting between the struts of the collapsing stock. The figure on the right has an AS Val. Both are from an unknown unit. Collection of Hiro Toyanaga – taken in May 2005 in Siberia

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
PKL	10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	2	10	40	Excellent	\$2000 (S/C)
bipod	10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	1	5	60	Excellent	
Used in assault role on sling	10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	1	6	50	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62L	Wt		6.5	Mag	25 belt	Notes	Reliability reduces to average after 250 rounds fired without 5 min to cool off.		



Illustration 84: US Rangers pose with captured RPD (Ranger Regiment Museum)

RPD

Prior to the issue of the PK, the Soviets had used the RPD. This was a non-disintegrating belt feed weapon with the belt held in a 100 round drum underneath the weapon. It was still in widespread service in 3rd line Warsaw Pact units and around the world at the start of the war.

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
RPD	10	3D6	2-nil	5	100B	1	5	60	Excellent	\$1500 (R/S)
bipod	10	3D6	2-nil	5	100B	1	3	75	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62S	Wt	9	Mag	100 belt in drum	Notes				



Illustration 85: Czech soldier with Vz59. Czech Army

Vz59

Once again the Czechoslovakians had produced their own weapon, the Vz59. This was similar to the PK and could be fired from the Pact light tripod (PLT). There was also an anti-aircraft mount available. A tank mounted version the Vz59T has identical statistics but few interchangeable parts (it is electrically fired).

Created for the Twilight 2000 RPG by James Langham

						Recoil				
	ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
Vz59	10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	2	5	65	Excellent	\$2000 (R/S)
bipod	10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	1	4	95	Excellent	
tripod	10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	25B	1	2	125	Excellent	
Ammo	7.62L	Wt	10	Mag	25 belt	Notes				



Illustration 86: Czech army poster showing the Vz59 in sustained fire role
M53



Illustration 87: M53 being used by Serbian infantry to engage a Bulgarian Mi8. Private collection of "John Smith"

Yugoslavia wishing to retain its non-aligned stance did not adopt the PK machine gun, instead using a copy of the World War Two era MG42, only slightly reducing the rate of fire (by an amount which is insignificant in game terms). In addition a number of MG42s captured during World War Two were taken into service as the M53/42. During the 1980s a number were exported to Iran where they were



Illustration 88: US Marine with M53/42 in Iran. The weapon was manufactured in Nazi Germany, captured in Yugoslavia, taken into their service, sold to Iraq, captured by Iran and then given to the USMC as a replacement weapon for supplies lost on the USS San Jose. USMC

used in action against Iran. It will fit on the Pact Light Tripod (PLT) or a NATO Medium Tripod (NMT).

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
M53 or M53/42		10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	50B	2	8	65	Good	\$2000 (-/R)
bipod		10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	50B	1	4	95	Good	
tripod		10	4D6	2-3-nil	6	50B	1	2	125	Good	
Ammo	8mm	Wt	12	Mag	50 belt	Notes					



Illustration 89: US Ranger test firing a DShKM using the wheeled carriage in it's anti-aircraft mode although without the AA sights. Ranger Regiment Museum

DShKM

A design dating from 1933, this heavy machine gun was still in service in 1995, mainly as an anti-aircraft weapon on vehicles. They were also popular on “technicals” and the Soviets were quick to use this approach for light raiding vehicles

(often in conjunction with AGS17 armed vehicles). It could be fired from a ground mount wheeled carriage (PHC) which weighs 81.3kg. The gunshield on it is AV1 and protects on a 1-6 on 1D10 for frontal hits (except on the head).



Illustration 90: DShk on wheeled carriage (SASC Museum Collection)

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
DShKM		5	9D6	2-2-3	8	50B	7	17	65	Good	\$2000 (C/V)
tripod		5	9D6	2-2-3	8	50B	3	8	150	Good	
Ammo	12.7	Wt	46.7	Mag	50 belt	Notes					

NSV

In 1971 the Soviets introduced a more modern heavy machine gun to replace the DshKM, the NSV. This was a much lighter design which could be fitted to a Pact Medium Tripod (PMT). It was used on the T64 and T80 in place of the DShKM.

						Recoil					
		ROF	Dam	Pen	Blk	Mag	SS	Burst	Rng	Reliability	Price
NSV		10	9D6	2-2-3	8	50B	7	20	65	Good	\$2000 (C/V)
tripod		10	9D6	2-2-3	8	50B	3	8	150	Good	
Ammo	12.7	Wt	25	Mag	50 belt	Notes					



Illustration 91: NSV in a Soviet bunker on the Chinese border August 1995. Here a scope has been fitted. Note how the tripod has been weighted down. TASS

Foreign Weapons

A number of foreign weapons were used by Warsaw Pact troops. Recce units in particular liked using foreign weapons as it eased the supply situation and made them harder to identify in fire fights (the weapons not only sound different but NATO uses red tracer and the Warsaw Pact green). These were never officially sanctioned but it was a common practice to scrounge such weapons. Popular in this role were M16s of all types and G11s (when ammunition could be obtained). A 1998 photo of a long range recce patrol grouped around their motorcycle combinations and BRDM2s show 4 carrying AK74s (2 with BG15/GP25s), 1 with an RPG16 and an Uzi, 3 with M16A2s (one with an M203), 2 AKR, 1 G3, 1 SVD, 1 M21, 2 PKMs, 1 PKL, 1 FN MAG and 1 L34A1 silenced Sterling! Pistols were not often acquired, although for some reason they were more popular with the Poles than others. Very popular were the disposable anti-tank weapons, the heavier M136s and LAW94s supplementing the Pact RPG18s and RPG22s.

Special Forces units were routinely given access to NATO weapons, particularly for those on long range penetration missions or who were disguised as NATO troops

Polish ORMO troops seem to have the strangest items. As NATO re-entered Poland, warehouses left over from World War Two were raided and issued almost on the basis of anyone walking up would be given one. This probably accounts for reports of odd weapons turning up such as FG42s at the Battle of Czechstowa and reports that border guards were equipped with sawn off PPSH41s.

As an aside, also left over from the Second World War were some of the fortifications on the Sino-Soviet border where German tanks had been dug in to form pillboxes.

7. Bayonets

The 6H4 bayonet used with the whole AK series may be clipped onto it's scabbard to form a wire cutter using the small hole in the blade.



Illustration 92: 6H4 from the Hanover Collection

The Hungarians issued a different version of this. As the AMD65 was incapable of mounting a bayonet due to the suppressor, they instead issued only a knife that retained the wire cutting ability of the 6H4. It is easily recognised by the different grip and lack of attachment points.

The Czechoslovakia Vz58 was the only weapon that used a bayonet incompatible with the 6H4 as the different front end ensured the fittings

As a bayonet it is not exceptional but as it is rarely used in that way this is not a problem. There were a number of variants both within the Soviet Army and the Pact but they are all functionally identical.

German bayonets

Due to a quirk of German Army requirements, the bayonet was not issued. Instead only a fighting knife was issued. When units were issued with the AK series weapons (any of the G12 to G15), it was common to issue the bayonet with it, making it the only bayonet issued to the German Army. It is worth noting that some units were issued with the East German bayonets as fighting knives even though they did not have a weapon they could be fitted to. This explains the confusion over some sources stating the G11 could fit a bayonet.



Illustration 93: Soviet recce trooper zeros his M16A1 on the ranges. Private collection of Alexander Mostov

required were different. The Finnish Rk62 and it's variants used a different bayonet but the same fittings.

8. Rocket Propelled Grenades



Illustration 94: Polish RPG2 gunner. This is probably a posed photo from the lack of equipment. Warsaw Collection

RPG2

First issued in 1947 this was the peacetime successor to the large numbers of captured German Panzerfausts that were known in Soviet service as the RPG1. Widely copied they were used by the Vietnamese as the B40. By 1995 they were only held in stores but were pulled and issued out as NATO troops crossed Poland, initially to ORMO units but as the need became desperate they could be found in even front line infantry units.

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG2	1	1	45	HEAT	C:4 B:4	40C	Excellent	\$500 (R/S)
Wt	2.8	Ammo wt	1.8			Notes		

RPG7

The standard squad level anti-tank weapon of the Soviets since 1961. It had been partially replaced in front line service but was widely encountered. Easy to use it was popular although it did have some peculiarities such as turning INTO the wind when fired due to the spinning fins on the projectile. It was widely manufactured outside the Soviet Union. A number of different warheads were manufactured and issued. There is



Illustration 95: RPG7 poster (Courtesy of the SASC Museum)



Illustration 96: Well equipped Soviet Naval Infantryman reloading an RPG7 on the banks of the Vistula. Unusually he has no number 2 to reload for him. Mid 2000. Pravda

a variant the RPG7V which was designed for the VDV which breaks into two halves when parachuting. It is \$50 more expensive and one category rarer.

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG7	1	1	50	HEAT (PG7V)	C:4 B:4	55C	Excellent	\$800 (S/C)
			45	HEAT (PG7VL)	C:4 B:4	75C	Excellent	
			45	Tandem HEAT (PG7VR)	C:4 B:4	30C + 60C	Excellent	
			50	Fragmentation (OG7V)	C:8 B:8	10C	Excellent	
			50	Thermobaric (TBG7V)	C:8 B:12	-	Excellent	
Wt	6	Ammo wt	3			Notes		

RPG16

First issued in 1970, this was not a development of the RPG7 but a special lightweight launcher that was designed to be issued to Spetznaz troops and VDV paratroopers. As it was felt these would have need of a longer ranged weapon (as they did not have armoured vehicles to support them) the decision was made to trade off warhead power for a more powerful rocket booster to give a longer range (a bipod was also fitted to aid this).



Illustration 97: VDV trooper in Northern China with RPG16. March 1996. Pravda

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG16	1	1	65	HEAT	C:4 B:4	40C	Excellent	\$700 (R/S)
Bipod		1	75	HEAT	C:4 B:4	40C		
Wt	6.5	Ammo wt	3			Notes		



RPG18

A modified copy of the US M72 LAW, this was also a single use throw away weapon. Note that the absolute maximum range is 200m as the warhead explodes at this distance.

Illustration 98: Reconstruction of private Anton Nemerov's winning of the Hero of the Soviet Union for the single handed destruction of 3 Leopard I tanks using multiple RPG18s Ukrainian Broadcasting Service

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG18	1	--	55	HEAT	C:4 B:4	55C	Good	\$275 (R/S)
Wt	2					Notes		

RPG22

Developed from the RPG18, this was also a single use throw away weapon. Note that the absolute maximum range is 250m as the warhead explodes at this distance.



Illustration 99: RPG22 being fired by a member of the 376th MRD SovPhoto

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG22	1	--	65	HEAT	C:4 B:4	70C	Good	\$300 (R/S)
Wt	3					Notes		



RPG26

Another Soviet throw away anti-tank weapon, this fired a heavier warhead than the previous versions. There was a variant version the RShG2 which fired a thermobaric warhead with a shorter range.

Illustration 100: RPG26 being carried by members of an unidentified unit in the Siege of Warsaw. Warsaw Memorial Museum

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG26	1	--	55	HEAT	C:4 B:4	80C	Good	\$350 (R/S)
Wt	3					Notes		

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RShG2	1	--	35	Thermo	C:8 B:8	--	Good	\$300 (-/R)
Wt	3					Notes		

RPG27

Another Soviet throw away anti-tank weapon, developed from the RPG26 but with a larger tandem warhead. There was a variant version the RShG1 which fired a thermobaric warhead with a longer range.

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG27	1	--	55	HEAT	C:4 B:4	30C + 60C	Good	\$400 (R/S)
Wt	3.5					Notes		

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RShG1	1	--	75	Thermo	C:8 B:8	--	Good	\$350 (-/R)
Wt	3.5					Notes		

RPG29

The RPG29 marked a return to the reloadable launcher in a design that remarkably like an enlarged version of the World War Two era bazooka. Introduced in 1989 it was only in use with first line units when the war broke out and never replaced the older weapons.

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG29	1	1	65	HEAT	C:4 B:4	120C	Good	\$1200 (R/S)
			65	Thermo baric	C:12 B:12	-		
Wt	12	Ammo wt	6			Notes		



Illustration 101: Polish ORMO with RPG29. Krakow State Museum



M80

Yugoslavia developed it's own indigenous weapon to serve alongside the locally produced RPG7 clone. This was a single shot throw away weapon inspired by the US M72 LAW.

Illustration 102: M80 (Serbian State Archives)

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
M80	1	--	65	HEAT	C:4 B:4	55C	Good	\$300 (-/R)
Wt	3					Notes		



RPG75

Czechoslovakia also developed their own disposable anti-tank rocket the RPG75. This was comparable to the RPG18. This was used alongside the RPG7.

	ROF	Rld	Rng	Rnd	Damage	Pen	Reliability	Price
RPG75	1	--	65	HEAT	C:4 B:4	55C	Good	\$300 (-/R)
Wt	3.2					Notes		

Illustration 103: RPG75 in use against the British I Corps in Operation Mornington Crescent (Czech Army)

9. Ammunition and Accessories

Magazines are purchased separately costing \$1 per 3 rounds of capacity (rounded up) unless noted. Magazine weight is negligible unless noted (it is factored into the ammunition weight).

Soviet ammunition is made using steel cases (expect for shotgun ammunition). This is harder to reload so is only worth half the normal value in spent cases. Rounds with non-steel cases are indicated below in italics.

5.45 B (5.45x39mm)

Wt: 10kg per case of 840, 0.2kg per 10 round blank magazine, 0.5kg per 30 round magazine, 0.6kg per 40 round magazine

Price \$100 per case (C/V)

Special: Grenade launching blank is \$10 (-/S) per 20 round box (Wt 0.3)

5.45 P (5.45x18mm)

Wt: 4kg per case of 800, 0.1kg per 8 round magazine

Price \$75 per case (R/S)

7.62 T (7.62x25mm Tokarev – also 7.63mmx25mm Mauser)

Wt: 35kg per case of 2500, 0.2kg per 8 or 9 round magazine, 0.6kg per 32 or 35 round magazine, 1kg per 71 round drum

Price \$250 per case (R/S)

7.62 T+ (7.62x25mm Tokarev high loaded)

Wt: 36kg per case of 2500, magazines as above

Price \$280 per case (-/R) – S in Czechoslovakia

7.62 S (7.62x39mm Short/Soviet)

Wt: 10kg per case of 600, 0.5kg per 10 round magazine or stripper clip, 0.8 per 20 round magazine, 1kg per 30 round magazine, 1.2kg per 40 round magazine, 2kg per 75 round drum. 10 round blank magazines are \$10 (-/R)

Price \$100 per case (C/V)

Special: Grenade launching blank is \$10 (R/C) per 20 round box (Wt 0.5)

7.62 N (7.62x51mm NATO)

Wt: 15kg per case of 600, 0.75kg per 20 round magazine

Price \$65 per case (C/S)

7.62 L/R (7.62x54mm Long/Rimmed)

Wt: 15kg per case of 600 or 500 belted, 0.3kg per 10 round magazine, 0.2kg per 5 round stripper clip, 0.75kg per 25 round belt, 3 kg per 100 round belt/box

Price \$70 per case (S/C) \$120 (-/R) for AP

.32ACP (7.65x17mm Semi Rimmed)

Wt: 20kg per case of 2000, 0.1kg per 10 round magazine, 0.2kg per 20 round magazine

Price \$150 per case (S/S)

7.92 M (7.92x57mm Mauser – also known as 8mm Mauser)

Wt: 10kg per case of 300 or 250 belted, 0.2kg per 5 round stripper clip, 30 loose rounds per kg, 1.5 kg per 50 round belt
Price \$30 per case (S/S) – C in Yugoslavia

7.62 K (7.92xmm Kurtz - Short)

Wt: 10kg per case of 600, 1kg per 30 round magazine,
Price \$100 per case (R/S)

9mm M (9x18mm Makarov)

Wt: 15kg per case of 1500, 0.1kg per 6 or 8 round magazine, 0.2kg per 10, 12 or 15 round magazine, 0.3kg per 20 or 25 round magazine, 0.5kg per 64 round helical magazine
Price \$200 per case (S/C)
Special: 64 round magazines cost \$35

9mm M+ (9x18mm Makarov high loaded)

Wt: 16kg per case of 1500
Magazines as above
Price \$230 per case (-/R)

9mm P (9x19mm Parabellum)

Wt: 15kg per case of 1500, 0.2kg per 15 or 17 round magazine, 0.3kg per 20 round magazine, 0.4kg per 36 or 40 round magazine, 0.5 kg per 50 round magazine, 0.6kg per 71 round magazine
Price \$225 per case (V/C)

9mm SS (9x39mm Soviet Subsonic)

Wt: 11kg per case of 600, 0.5kg per 10 round magazine 0.8 per 20 round magazine
Price \$200 per case (R/S) AP \$300 (-/R)

12.7mm B (12.7 x 83mm Block Rimmed)

Wt: 25kg per case of 100 belted or 150 loose, 1.5kg per 10 round magazine, 11kg per 50 round magazine
Price \$35 per case (S/C)

14.5mm B (14.5 x 114mm Block)

Wt: 30kg per case of 100 belted or 150 loose, 25kg per 100 round belt, 1kg per 5 round magazine
Price \$30 per case (S/C)

.410 Shotgun – plastic cased

Wt: 15kg per case of 400, 0.6kg per 10 round magazine
Price \$100 per case (S/S)

The 5.45 Cartridge



When the 5.45x39mm cartridge was introduced in 1974, it was an attempt by the Soviets to emulate the success of the NATO 5.56x45mm round. The design philosophy was to increase the amount of ammunition a soldier could carry that would still be effective at normal battlefield ranges. It would also increase accuracy of subsequent rounds on automatic fire due to reduced recoil (Soviet doctrine was for heavy use of automatic fire while advancing).

When tested in the West using rifles and ammunition captured in Afghanistan, it was found that the rounds had a habit of yawing and tumbling due to air cavities within the round. Whilst this was seen in the West as a borderline hollow point round that was possibly illegal in warfare, the real story was actually much simpler. With the hollow at the rear of the round to reduce weight, the tumbling was only partially due to design, it was mainly due to poor quality manufacturing controls. This was not seen as a major problem by the Soviets regarding the trade off of accuracy (which was already limited by weapon design tolerances) for the increased damage potential.

12 Bore Shotgun – plastic cased

Wt: 15kg per case of 240, 0.6kg per 5 round magazine, 0.8 kg per 8 round magazine, 1kg per 10 round magazine, 2.5kg per 20 round drum, 15 loose rounds per kg

Price \$100 per case (C/C)

Special: 20 round drum costs \$20

30mm Grenades

Wt: 0.35kg each or 40kg per case of 100 rounds, 10kg per 30 round drum

Price \$3 per round or \$75 per case (S/C)

Special: Drum costs \$75

40mm S Grenades (Caseless)

Wt: 25kg per case of 72 or 0.2 kg each

Price varies by type:

fragmentation: \$4 each or \$200 per case (S/C)

bouncing fragmentation: \$5 each or \$250 per case (R/S)

smoke: \$3 each or \$150 per case (S/C)

CS: \$4 each or \$200 per case (R/S)

baton: \$2 each or \$100 per case (-/R)

HEDP: \$6 each or \$300 per case (special – may not exist – GM discretion)

Pact Light Tripod (PLT)

Wt: 10kg

Price \$250 (S/C)

Pact Medium Tripod (PMT)

Wt: 12kg

Price \$300 (S/C)

Pact Heavy Carriage (PHC)

Wt: 100kg

Price \$1000 (R/S)

NATO Medium Tripod (NMT)

Wt: 10kg

Price \$200 (S/R) – S in Yugoslavia

Annex 1: Pact Low Level Infantry Organisation

1. Soviet Category 1 at the outbreak of the war (1995)

Squad organisation

Sergeant or Junior Sergeant with AK74
Gunner with PK/PKM or RPK74
Gunner with RPK74 or rifleman with AK74
Anti tank grenadier with RPG7/29 and AK74
Grenadier with AK74 and BG15/GP25/GP30 or Rifleman with AK74
Rifleman with AK74 (RPG7 no 2)

Three such squads plus the following made up a platoon:

Lieutenant or Junior Lieutenant with AK74 and/or Makarov PM/PMM – in 1st squad's vehicle
Sergeant with AK74 – in 2nd squad's vehicle
Radio operator with AK74 (not always present) – in 1st squad's vehicle
Marksman with SVD – in 2nd squad's vehicle (often 1st if no radio operator)
Medic with AK74 (not always present) – in 3rd squad's vehicle

An SA14 would be issued to one of the platoon's rifleman. Two or three members of the squad would also carry a disposable RPG. BTR units tended to only have the one gunner and the grenadier was often replaced by a rifleman.

Each soldier would normally carry four magazines for their rifle. The RPG no 2 would carry three reloads. Grenadiers would usually carry 12-15 40mmS rounds. Each soldier would usually carry two hand grenades.

Crews for the BMP or BTR were separate from the squads and consisted of a commander, gunner and driver (often the first two were combined in BTR units). All would carry AKSU74 or AKS74s.

2. Soviet Chinese Front (mid 1997) – recalled category 2 unit (BTR)

Squad organisation

Sergeant or Junior Sergeant with AK74
Gunner with PKL or RPK74
Gunner with RPK74
Anti tank grenadier with RPG7 and AK74
Rifleman with AK74 (RPG7 no 2)
Rifleman with AK74

AK74s could be replaced with AKMs (the RPK74 and PKL would be replaced with with RPKs)

Three such squads plus the following made up a platoon:

Lieutenant or Junior Lieutenant with AK74 and/or Makarov PM – in 1st squad's vehicle
Sergeant with AK74 – in 2nd squad's vehicle
Radio operator with AK74 (not always present) – in 1st squad's vehicle
Marksman with SVD – in 2nd squad's vehicle (often 1st if no radio operator) – often a second was added at the expense of a rifleman within a squad
Medic with AK74 (not always present) – in 3rd squad's vehicle

The SA14 would not probably be carried (this was often replaced by an SA7). As many disposable RPGs as could be scrounged would be carried.

Ammunition carried would often be substantially higher than those found in 1995/96.

Crews for the BTR were separate from the squads and consisted of a commander/gunner and driver. All would carry AKSU74 or AKS74s.

3. Soviet Category 2/3/Mobilisation Only Poland late 1999

By this time scales of issue were so varied as to be almost random based on what was in equipment depots. Below is a typical unit as opposed to what was the scale of issue. At most 4 disposable RPGs would be carried throughout the platoon. Interestingly squad strength had often actually increased at the expense of one of the squads (as shown below). It has been suggested that this was due to vehicle shortages and/or older vehicles coming into service as these often had larger carrying capacities. Some platoons were even carried in single trucks.

Squad organisation

Sergeant or Junior Sergeant with AKM
Gunner with PKL or RPK or PKM
Gunner with RPK or RPD
Anti tank grenadier with RPG7 and AKM or PPSH43
Rifleman with AKM
Rifleman with AKM or captured SMG (RPG7 no 2)
Rifleman with AKM
Rifleman with AKM

Two such squads plus the following made up a platoon:

Lieutenant or Junior Lieutenant with AKMS and/or PG17
Sergeant with AKM
Radio operator with AKM (not always present)
Marksman with SVD – alternatively if two weapons were available they could be assigned one per section
Medic with PPSH43 (not always present)

Vehicle crews were separate from the squads. As the vehicles varied so much it is hard to list these additional members of the platoon. They were armed with a mix of AKMS, APS, AKSU, PPSH43 and captured weapons.

4. Polish ORMO – Warsaw early 2000

This would vary dramatically and is just a guide to TYPICAL weapons and sizes. Ammunition would be in short supply.

Squad organisation

Squad Leader with AKM
Gunner with RPK
Anti tank grenadier with 4 anti tank grenades and PPSH41 – alternatively these could be distributed through the squad
Rifleman with Uzi (RPK no 2 if PK used)
Rifleman with Kar98K
Rifleman with AK47
Rifleman with Mosin-Nagant
Rifleman with M16A2
Rifleman with double barrelled shotgun
Squad runner with TT-33 Tokarev

Three to eight (usually five to six) such squads plus the following made up a company:



Illustration 104: Polish ORMO (unusually in field caps implying they are more likely a workers' militia type unit) being briefed in mid 1997. Interestingly they appear to be well uniformed and all armed with MP44s. Warsaw Memorial Museum

Headquarters

Company leader with P64
Deputy company leader with SKS
Runner with SKS
Runner with Stg44
Runner with hunting rifle

Weapons squad

Squad leader with AKM
Deputy squad leader with AK47
Gunner with PK
Rifleman with SKS (PK no 2)
Rifleman with hunting rifle (PK no 3)
Anti-tank grenadier with RPG2/7
Assistant with SKS (RPG no 2)
Anti-tank grenadier with RPG2/7
Assistant with PA64 (RPG no 2)
Marksman with Scoped hunting rifle
Spotter with pump action shotgun
Marksman with Scoped Mosin-Nagant
Spotter with PM63RAK



Illustration 105: Spetsnaz section of SD-429, China late 1997

Rear row: PKM, ? & RPG18, AK74, PKM/PKL (from this angle the differences are not visible)

Front row: RPK74 & RPG27, VSS Vintorez & AKMSU, AK74&GP25 (SovPhoto)

Annex 2: Weapons issued

This lists the standard issue weapons for front line infantry units. Militia and lower mobilisation units would often be found with the secondary weapons listed below (or older!). Specialist units often used different weapons.

	Soviet (including ex-Soviet independent states)	Polish	Czech/ Slovak	Hungarian	Bulgarian	Romanian	Yugoslavian Republics (C) Croatia only (S) Serbia only	Finnish	Albania
Primary rifle	AK74M AK74 AKS74 AKMR AKMSR	Wz88 Kbkg Wz1960 AKM AKMS	Vz58P Vz58v Vz92	AKM AKMS	AKM AKMS AK47 AKS47	AKM AKMS	AK74N (C) M16 (S) Kbkg Wz1960 AKM AKMS AK47	Rk62 M76 M76F	AKM AK47
Secondary rifle(s)	AKM AKMS AK47 AKS47 SKS AS96	AKMR AKMSR AK47 AKS47 SKS	Vz92G MP44	AK47 AKS47 SKS	SKS	AK47 AKS47 SKS	AKS47 M77B1 M80 M80A MP44 M48 Kar98K	M82	AKMS AKS47 SKS Moisin-Nagant
Primary sub-machinegun	AK74U	PM63RAK	Vz61	AMD65	AKMSU	AKMSU	M56	KP/-31	PPSh43 PPSh41
Secondary sub-machinegun	AKMSU APS PP19 Bizon	PM84 Vz61 AK74U PPSh41	Vz24 Vz26 AKMSU			APS	PPSh43 PPSh41 M1 Thompson		AKMSU
Primary sniper rifle	SVD	SVD	SVD	SVD	SVD	PSL	M76 M91	SVD	Moisin-Nagant
Secondary sniper rifle	RPKC PTRS41 SVC		Vz54				SVD Moisin-Nagant Kar98K		SVD
Heavy sniper rifle	SVC PTRS41								
Primary pistol	PM	P64	Vz82 Vz75	PA63	PA63	TT33	TT33 Cz99		TT33
Secondary pistol	PMM TT33 PG17	P83 TT33	Vz52	TT33	TT33	PM			
Primary squad automatic	RPK74 RPK74M	RPK74 RPK	RPK	RPK	RPK	RPK	RPK RPD M78	M77	RPK RPD
Secondary squad automatic	RPK PKL			RPD	RPD		M79 M79 (5.56)	M82	
Primary machinegun	PKM	PKM	Vz59	PKM PK	PKM PK	PKM PK	M53 M53/42	PKM	PK
Secondary machinegun	PK PKL	PK					RPD PK	PK	
Heavy machine gun	NSV DShK	DShk	DShk	DShk	DShk	DShk	DShk	DShk	DShk
Primary anti-tank launcher	RPG7 RPG29 RPG22	RPG7 RPG22 RPG18	RPG7 RPG75	RPG7	RPG7	RPG7	RPG7 M80	RPG7	RPG7 RPG2
Secondary anti-tank launcher	RPG18 RPG26 RPG27	RPG26 RPG2	RPG2	RPG18 RPG2	RPG18 RPG2	RPG18 RPG2	RPG2	RPG18	
Grenade launcher	BG15 GP25 GP30	BG15							
Heavy grenade launcher	AGS17	AGS17	AGS17	AGS17				AGS17	

Design Notes:

TWILIGHT 2000

Warsaw Pact Small Arms Guide



“Everyone knows the Warsaw Pact weapons right? Wrong, what most people can identify are the standard Soviet weapons and not even all of those, what about the Finnish, Polish, Czechoslovakian and Romanian weapons used in place of the Soviet ones? Not to mention the completely independent Yugoslavian arms industry or the East German weapons used by the German Army for reservists? There were more different weapons in use than in NATO!”

This guide is intended to provide a new source book for Twilight 2000 players and referees giving updated details of Warsaw Pact weapons that were unavailable at the date of the game's publication plus a few weapons that have been created to fit the game background.

Includes details of:

- * AK series rifles (including their use by the German Army and 5.56mm versions)
- * Vz92 assault rifle
- * PP19 Bizon sub-machine gun
- * Makarov PM (including improved PMM) pistol
- * PSL sniper rifle
- * VSS Vintorez silenced sniper rifle
- * M53/42 general purpose machine gun
- * NSV heavy machine gun
- * RPG29 anti-tank launcher
- * GP25/30 and the specialist grenades available for them (including the bouncing fragmentation round)
- * Typical section level equipment at different points of the war
- * Equipment used by each Pact country