

# SALW Guide

Global distribution and visual  
identification




























## Cuba

Country report

<https://salw-guide.bicc.de>

# Weapons Distribution

The following list shows the weapons which can be found in *Cuba* and whether there is data on who holds these weapons:

AGS-17			PPSH 41		
AK-47 / AKM			RPD		
AK-74			RPG 2		
DShk			RPG 7		
FN FAL			RPK		
FN Herstal FN MAG			SA vz 23 / 25		
FN High Power			SA vz 24 / 26		
IGLA (SA-16 / SA-18)			Simonov SKS		
M1918 Browning			Sten gun		
Makarov PM			Sterling L2A3		
Mosin-Nagant Rifle Mod. 1891			Strela (SA-7 / SA-14)		
PK			UZI		

## Explanation of symbols



Country of origin



Licensed production



Production without a licence



*Government:* Sources indicate that this type of weapon is held by Governmental agencies.



*Non-Government:* Sources indicate that this type of weapon is held by non-Governmental armed groups.



*Unspecified:* Sources indicate that this type of weapon is found in the country, but do not specify whether it is held by Governmental agencies or non-Governmental armed groups.

It is entirely possible to have a combination of tags beside each country. For example, if country X is tagged with a G and a U, it means that at least one source of data identifies Governmental agencies as holders of weapon type Y, and at least one other source confirms the presence of the weapon in country X without specifying who holds it.

**Note:** This application is a living, non-comprehensive database, relying to a great extent on active contributions (provision and/or validation of data and information) by either SALW experts from the military and international renowned think tanks or by national and regional focal points of small arms control entities.

## AGS-17

The AGS-17 grenade launcher was first developed in the 1930s, but due to the Second World War, a first prototype was only completed in 1969. The production of the AGS-17 started in 1971 and ceased in 1989, but numerous units and variants are still in use today. The weapon gained prominence when it was widely operated by Soviet troops in the war in Afghanistan in the 1980s. The AGS-17 and its successor, the AGS-30, may be used by infantry, though they are often mounted on helicopters and other vehicles.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Hand-held under-barrel and Mounted Grenade Launchers</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	blow-back, selective-fire
<b>Cartridge</b>	30x29 mm
<b>Length</b>	840 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	metal link belt with 29 rds

The following ammunition can be used by the **AGS-17**:

### 30x29 mm

Bullet diameter	30 mm
Case length	29 mm
Overall length	-

NO IMAGE

## AK-47 / AKM

The AK 47 (Designed 1946-1948) is best described as a hybrid of previous rifle technology innovations: the trigger, double locking lugs and unlocking raceway of the M1 Garand/M1 carbine, the safety mechanism of the John Browning designed Remington Model 8 rifle, and the gas system and layout of the Sturmgewehr 44. There are many variants. The weapons are used by the former Warsaw Pact countries, and they are still in service with numerous armed forces, both regular and irregular. The model and its variants remain the most popular and widely used rifles in the world because of its reliability under harsh conditions, low production costs.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Assault Rifles</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Gas operated, rotating bolt with 2 lugs
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 39mm
<b>Length</b>	870 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **AK-47 / AKM**:

## 7.62 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	38.7 mm
Overall length	56 mm



## AK-74

The AK 74 (Designed 1974) is an adaptation of the 7.62mm AKM assault rifle and features several important design improvements.

These modifications were primarily the result of converting the rifle to the intermediate-caliber 5.45x39mm cartridge, in fact, some

early models are reported to have been converted AKMs, with the barrel re-sleeved to 5.45x39mm. The result is a more accurate and reliable rifle than the AKM. The AK-74 and AKM share an approximate 50% parts commonality (interchangeable are most often pins, springs and screws). There are many variants. The weapons are used by the former Warsaw Pact countries, and they are still in service with numerous armed forces, both regular and irregular. The model and its variants remain the most popular and widely used rifles in the world because of its reliability under harsh conditions, low production costs.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Assault Rifles</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Gas operated, rotating bolt with 2 lugs
<b>Cartridge</b>	5.45 x 39mm
<b>Length</b>	943 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **AK-74**:

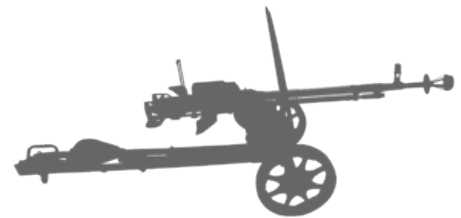
## 5.45 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	5.6 mm
Case length	39.82 mm
Overall length	57 mm



## DShk

The DShk was exported to many countries, and it can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Heavy Machine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Gas operated, belt fed, air cooled, selective fire
<b>Cartridge</b>	12.7 x 108 mm
<b>Length</b>	1625 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Belt

The following ammunition can be used by the **DShk**:

## 12.7 x 108 mm

Bullet diameter	12.98 mm
Case length	108 mm
Overall length	147.5 mm

NO IMAGE

## FN FAL

The FN FAL (Fusil Automatique Léger - Light Automatic Rifle) is one of the most famous and widespread military rifle. Because of its prevalence and widespread usage among the militaries of many NATO and first world countries during the Cold War, it received the title "The right arm of the Free World". It can be found in both, the 7.62x51mm and, very rarely, the 5.56x45mm NATO versions. The furniture may be wood, metal or plastic. There are various barrel lengths. In the UK (L1A1), Canadian, Indian and Netherland versions, there is no automatic fire mode. The gas system is fitted with gas regulator so it could be easily adjusted for various environment conditions, or cut off completely so rifle grenades could be safely launched from the barrel.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Assault Rifles</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Gas operated, tilting breechblock, select-fire or semi-automatic only
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 51mm / .308 Winchester
<b>Length</b>	1100 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **FN FAL**:

### 7.62 x 51mm / .308 Winchester

Bullet diameter	7.82 mm
Case length	51.18 mm
Overall length	69.85 mm



## FN Herstal FN MAG

The Belgian FN MAG (Mitrailleuse d'Appui Général, meaning general-purpose machine gun) entered into production in 1958. It is one of the most widespread machine gun designs and is used in more than 90 countries around the globe. It is still manufactured in Belgium and produced under license in several countries including Argentina, Egypt, the US and the UK. It can be carried by infantry and is usually fired while mounted on a tripod.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Heavy Machine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	gas, automatic
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 51mm / .308 Winchester
<b>Length</b>	1260 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	disintegrating metal link belt

The following ammunition can be used by the **FN Herstal FN MAG**:

## 7.62 x 51mm / .308 Winchester

Bullet diameter	7.82 mm
Case length	51.18 mm
Overall length	69.85 mm



## FN High Power

The High Power is one of the most widely used military pistols of all time, having been used by the armed forces of over 50 countries. The pistol is often referred to as an HP (for "Hi Power" or "High Power") or as a GP (for the French term, "Grande Puissance"). Technically, the High Power pistol, also known as Browning HP 35, GP 35 or Model 1935, is a recoil operated, locked breech pistol. It uses linkless barrel to slide locking invented by Browning. The trigger is single action, with external hammer. Original HPs featured frame mounted safety at the left side of the frame, that locks both sear and slide. Modern versions, since Mark II, also featured ambidextrous safety levers, that are also more comfortable to operate.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Self-Loading Pistols &amp; Revolvers</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Short recoil operated, locked breech, single action
<b>Cartridge</b>	.40 S&W 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)
<b>Length</b>	200 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **FN High Power**:

## .40 S&W



Bullet diameter	10.2 mm
Case length	21.6 mm
Overall length	28.8 mm



## 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)

Bullet diameter	9 mm
Case length	19.15 mm
Overall length	29.69 mm



## IGLA (SA-16 / SA-18)

The main differences between the SA-18, the SA-16 and its predecessor Strela-3 (SA-14) included an optional “Identification Friend or Foe”-system to prevent firing on friendly aircraft, an automatic lead and super elevation to simplify shooting and reduce minimum firing range, a slightly larger rocket, reduced drag and better guidance system extend maximum range and improve performance against fast and maneuverable targets, an improved lethality on target achieved by a combination of delayed impact fusing, terminal maneuver to hit the fuselage rather than jet nozzle, an additional charge to set off the remaining rocket fuel (if any) on impact, an improved resistance to infrared countermeasure, and slightly improved seeker sensitivity. Several guerrilla and terrorist organizations are also known to have Iglas.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Portable Launcher of Anti-aircraft Missile Systems</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	MANPAD
<b>Cartridge</b>	
<b>Feeding</b>	front-loaded

The following ammunition can be used by the **IGLA (SA-16 / SA-18)**:

## M1918 Browning

The M1918 was produced between 1917 and 1945 originally in the US, but it is also produced in countries such as Belgium, Poland, Sweden and China. It remained in use by the US military until the 1970s. The name affix of the M1918 "BAR" means "Browning Automatic Rifle" and refers to the original designer John M. Browning, not to the actual manufacturer.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Light Machine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	gas operated, rising bolt lock
<b>Cartridge</b>	.30-06 M1 7.62 x 51mm / .308 Winchester 7.7 x 56mm R / .303 British 7.92x57 mm (8x57 IS)
<b>Length</b>	1200 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	20-round detachable box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **M1918 Browning**:

### .30-06 M1

Bullet diameter	7.8 mm
Case length	63.3 mm
Overall length	85 mm



### 7.62 x 51mm / .308 Winchester

Bullet diameter	7.82 mm
Case length	51.18 mm
Overall length	69.85 mm



### 7.7 x 56mm R / .303 British

Bullet diameter	7.9 mm
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Case length	56.4 mm
Overall length	78.1 mm



## 7.92x57 mm (8x57 IS)

Bullet diameter	8.08 mm
Case length	57 mm
Overall length	82 mm



## Makarov PM

The PM has a free-floating firing pin, with no firing pin spring or firing pin block. This allows for the possibility of accidentally firing if the pistol is dropped on its muzzle. It is a simple and sound design, which is considered to be one of the best compact self-defense pistols of its time. While not extremely accurate and lethal at ranges beyond 15-20 meters, it is still a formidable and reliable self-defense weapon. In the former Yugoslavia, the Makarov was produced under license as a commercial export-only version also in caliber 9x17mm (.380 ACP) and 7.65x17mm.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Self-Loading Pistols &amp; Revolvers</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Blowback operated, double action
<b>Cartridge</b>	9mm Makarov (9.2 x 18mm)
<b>Length</b>	161 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **Makarov PM**:

### 9mm Makarov (9.2 x 18mm)

Bullet diameter	9.27 mm
Case length	18.1 mm
Overall length	25 mm



## Mosin-Nagant Rifle Mod. 1891

This Russian “3-line” caliber (.30, 7,62mm) rifle existed in several variations and was several times adopted and modernized. Copies of this rifle were manufactured in different countries, like China, Hungary and Poland. Some of these were sporterized and converted to various calibers. Large numbers of these weapons were imported into both France and USA. The model 91/44 is shorter and has an attached bayonet. It was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Rifles &amp; Carbines</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Manually operated, rotating bolt
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 54mm R
<b>Length</b>	1306 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Internal magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **Mosin-Nagant Rifle Mod. 1891**:

### 7.62 x 54mm R

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	53.72 mm
Overall length	77.16 mm



## PK

The PK was made under license by many companies in many countries. It was exported to many countries and can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Light Machine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Gas operated, air cooled, belt fed weapon with a quick-detachable barrel
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 54mm R
<b>Length</b>	1173 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	(Boxed) belt

The following ammunition can be used by the **PK**:

### 7.62 x 54mm R

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	53.72 mm
Overall length	77.16 mm



## PPSH 41

The PPSH 41 was one of major infantry weapons of the Soviet troops during the World war 2. Retired from Soviet Army service soon after the WW2, the PPSH was widely exported to some pro-Soviet countries around the world, including China, Vietnam and many African countries. It was an effective, but somewhat crude weapon, reliable in combat but not without certain flaws. It has an excessive rate of fire, and its drums were uncomfortable to carry and prone to feed problems once the spring is weakened. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa. Nearly 6 million items were produced.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Submachine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Blowback-operated, fired from open bolt
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 25mm Tokarev
<b>Length</b>	843 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Drum magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **PPSH 41**:

## 7.62 x 25mm Tokarev

Bullet diameter	7.8 mm
Case length	25 mm
Overall length	34 mm



## RPD

The RPD (Ruchnoy Pulemet Degtyarova - Degtyarov Light MG) was one of the first weapons designed to fire a new, intermediate cartridge 7.62x39mm. During its service life, the weapon was modernized several times.

The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Light Machine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Gas operated, full auto only
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 39mm
<b>Length</b>	1037 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Boxed belt

The following ammunition can be used by the **RPD**:

## 7.62 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	38.7 mm

Overall length	56 mm
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## RPG 2

The RPG 2 design is based on the German Panzerfaust anti-tank weapon developed during World War II. It was made under license by many companies in many countries (e.g. the B-40 in Vietnam), it was exported to many countries, and it can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Portable Anti-tank Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Recoilless launch / non rocket booster
<b>Cartridge</b>	
<b>Length</b>	650 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	front-loaded

The following ammunition can be used by the **RPG 2**:

## RPG 7

The RPG 7 was made under license by many companies in many countries, it was exported to many countries, and it can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Portable Anti-tank Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Recoilless launch + rocket booster
<b>Cartridge</b>	
<b>Length</b>	650 mm

<b>Feeding</b>	front-loaded, manual reload
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The following ammunition can be used by the **RPG 7**:

## RPK

The RPK was made under license by many companies in many countries. It was exported to many countries, and it can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Light Machine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Gas operated, magazine fed, air cooled, selective fire
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 39mm
<b>Length</b>	1040 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **RPK**:

## 7.62 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	38.7 mm
Overall length	56 mm



## SA vz 23 / 25

The CZ Model 25 (properly, Sa 25 or Sa vz. 48b/ Samopal vz. 48b) utilize a Rate of fire 650 rounds per minute straightforward blowback action, with no locked breech, and fire from the open bolt position. They also use a progressive trigger for selecting between semi-automatic fire and fully automatic fire. Lightly pulling on the trigger will fire a single shot. Pulling the trigger farther to the rear in a continuous motion will fire fully automatically, until the trigger is released or the magazine is empty.





After the Sa 25 was declared obsolete in 1968, many of the 9 mm weapons were sold around the world. The surplus weapons were exported to other communist countries including North Vietnam. A somewhat-modified copy of the 9x19 mm model was produced in Rhodesia in the early 1970s and known as “Rhogun”.

<b>Category</b>	<i>Submachine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Blowback-operated, fired from open bolt
<b>Cartridge</b>	9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)
<b>Length</b>	445 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **SA vz 23 / 25**:

### 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)

Bullet diameter	9 mm
Case length	19.15 mm
Overall length	29.69 mm



### SA vz 24 / 26

The CZ Model 25 (properly, Sa 25 or Sa vz. 48b/ Samopal vz. 48b) utilize a Rate of fire 650 rounds per minute straightforward blowback action, with no locked breech, and fire from the open bolt position. They also use a progressive trigger for selecting between semi-automatic fire and fully automatic fire. Lightly pulling on the trigger will fire a single shot. Pulling the trigger farther to the rear



in a continuous motion will fire fully automatically, until the trigger is released or the magazine is empty. After the Sa 25 was declared obsolete in 1968, many of the 9 mm weapons were sold around the world. The surplus weapons were exported to other communist countries including North Vietnam. A somewhat-modified copy of the 9x19 mm model was produced in Rhodesia in the early 1970s and known as “Rhogun”.

<b>Category</b>	<i>Submachine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Blowback-operated, fired from open bolt
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 25mm Tokarev
<b>Length</b>	445 mm

<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine
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The following ammunition can be used by the **SA vz 24 / 26**:

## 7.62 x 25mm Tokarev

Bullet diameter	7.8 mm
Case length	25 mm
Overall length	34 mm



## Simonov SKS

SKS is a self-loading Carabine. It utilizes a short-stroke gas piston with its own return spring, and a tilting bolt locking, where a bolt tips down to lock onto the floor of the receiver. Charging handle is attached to the right side of the bolt carrier and moves when gun is fired. Safety switch is located inside the trigger guard. The early model 50



weapons are shorter and are usually found without the bayonet. The SKS was an extremely reliable, simple constructed weapon with two unique distinguishing characteristics: a permanently attached folding bayonet, and a hinged non-detachable magazine. However, it was incapable of fully automatic fire and limited by its ten round magazine capacity, and was rendered obsolescent by the introduction of the AK-47 in the 1950s. The SKS was only briefly a standard infantry weapon in front-line units of the Soviet Armed Forces before being replaced by the AK-47 . The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa. The SKS remains popular on the civilian market as a hunting and marksmanship arm in many countries, including the United States and Canada.

<b>Category</b>	<i>Rifles &amp; Carbines</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Gas operated, tilting bolt
<b>Cartridge</b>	7.62 x 39mm
<b>Length</b>	1020 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **Simonov SKS**:

## 7.62 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	38.7 mm
Overall length	56 mm



## Sten gun

Prior to 1941 UK was keen to produce a own submachine gun as an alternative Rate of fire 550 450 550 600 rounds per minute to the US-Thompson submachine gun. Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield designed the STEN gun. In the beginning, unreliable but extremely cheap and easy to produce. After further development, the guns of 1942 and beyond were, in general, highly effective weapons. In Germany, the STEN models “Potsdam” and “Neumünster” were manufactured during WW II. In late 1944, the Mauser works in Germany secretly started manufacturing copies of British Mk II Sten, apparently for diversion and sabotage purposes. These weapons were intended to duplicate the British original as closely as possible, right down to the markings. Also, during WW II some resistance groups in German-occupied countries (DNK, FRA, NOR, POL) produced significant numbers of Stens.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Submachine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Blowback-operated, fired from open bolt
<b>Cartridge</b>	9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)
<b>Length</b>	895 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **Sten gun**:

### 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)

Bullet diameter	9 mm
Case length	19.15 mm
Overall length	29.69 mm



## Sterling L2A3

Sterling submachine guns , were purchased in more than 70 countries. However, it must be noted that these weapons were rather popular among British troops because of their relatively compact size, adequate firepower and accuracy and good reliability. Special "high power, submachine-gun only" ammunition was procured by British army for Sterling submachine guns. This ammunition was absolutely safe in Sterling submachine guns, but can cause extensive wear to many 9mm pistols designed for commercial 9x19mm ammunition.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Submachine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Blowback-operated, select-fire, fires from open bolt
<b>Cartridge</b>	9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)
<b>Length</b>	481 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **Sterling L2A3**:

### 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)

Bullet diameter	9 mm
Case length	19.15 mm
Overall length	29.69 mm



## Strela (SA-7 / SA-14)

The missile launcher system consists of the green missile launch tube containing the missile, a grip stock and a cylindrical thermal battery. The launch tube is reloadable at depot, but missile rounds are delivered to fire units in their launch tubes. The device can be reloaded up to five times. The Strela and its variants have been widely used in nearly every regional conflict since 1968.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Portable Launcher of Anti-aircraft Missile Systems</i>
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<b>Operating system</b>	MANPAD
<b>Cartridge</b>	
<b>Feeding</b>	front-loaded

The following ammunition can be used by the **Strela (SA-7 / SA-14)**:

## UZI

The UZI and the Czechoslovakian series Sa 23 to Sa 26 were the first weapons to use a telescoping bolt design, in which the bolt wraps around the breech end of the barrel. This allows the barrel to be moved far back into the receiver and the magazine to be housed in the pistol grip, allowing for a heavier, slower-firing bolt in a shorter, better- balanced weapon. The pistol grip is fitted with a grip safety, making it difficult to fire accidentally. There were built further variants, also as Military variants, such as Mini Uzi, Micro Uzi and Uzi Pistol. Mini- and Micro-Uzi submachine guns were produced either in open-bolt or closed-bolt versions. The Uzi was also copied respectively cloned and spread around the whole world.



<b>Category</b>	<i>Submachine Guns</i>
<b>Operating system</b>	Blowback-operated, fired from open bolt
<b>Cartridge</b>	9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)
<b>Length</b>	470 mm
<b>Feeding</b>	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **UZI**:

### 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)

Bullet diameter	9 mm
Case length	19.15 mm
Overall length	29.69 mm



## Tagging of Sources

We believe that our Guide should be as transparent as possible without endangering the confidentiality of our sources. Rather than name the exact source for each unit of data, we have created tags so that users can at least know whether the data comes from a primary or secondary source, and by which medium it can or has been found. All incoming data is validated and then tagged by the project team at BICC before it enters our database.

Sources are tagged according to the following criteria:

### 1. Primary Sources:

These are presentations of facts. They are proof of an SALW event (e.g. a transfer, sighting, misuse, etc.) because the source was created at the time of the event itself. Primary sources are usually original documents such as transfer authorizations, firearms legislation, or academic journals presenting results of a study on SALW holdings in a particular country, for example. However, they can also be information offered by a person with direct knowledge of an SALW event or who has documented an SALW event at the time that it happened.

### 2. Secondary Sources:

These are interpretations or evaluation of facts. Secondary sources contain commentary and analysis of SALW events that are documented in primary sources.

Sources are also tagged according to the dominant medium of delivery:

**A. Written** - the source is based on written words.

**B. Oral** - the source is based on spoken words.

**C. Visual** - the source is based on seen events or optical images.

These criteria make our tags two-dimensional. While the process of classifying sources is a primarily subjective one, the project team at BICC has developed the following table to serve as an example of possible sources within each category.

**Table: Examples of sources on SALW distribution**

	Primary	Secondary

<p><b>Written</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fact books</li> <li>• Weapons Transfer authorizations</li> <li>• End-user certificates</li> <li>• Transcripts of interviews, legal proceedings, speeches/ presentations, meetings, conferences or symposia</li> <li>• Newspaper articles</li> <li>• Written correspondence (e.g. letters, emails, text messages, etc.)</li> <li>• Blogs</li> <li>• Peer-reviewed journal articles</li> <li>• Treaties, constitution, laws</li> <li>• Records of organizations (e.g. annual reports)</li> <li>• Surveys, questionnaires</li> </ul> <p>Etc...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wikipedia</li> <li>• Literature reviews</li> <li>• Training or safety manuals on gun control, ammunition, physical stockpile security management)</li> <li>• Minutes of meetings, conferences, symposia</li> <li>• Indexes (e.g. Global Militarization Index)</li> <li>• Newspaper articles</li> </ul> <p>Etc.</p>
<p><b>Oral</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interviews with experts, including radio or telephone</li> <li>• Legal proceedings</li> <li>• Speeches or interventions by experts or national representatives in government or international meetings</li> </ul> <p>Etc ...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speeches, panel presentations, etc. on data provided by experts</li> </ul> <p>Etc...</p>
<p><b>Visual</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artifacts (e.g. the weapons themselves, ammunition)</li> <li>• Photographs of weapons, ammunition, etc.</li> <li>• Videos (e.g. YouTube, those recorded by mobile phone)</li> <li>• Television documentaries, news reports</li> </ul> <p>Etc ...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PowerPoint presentations on results found by experts</li> </ul> <p>Etc...</p>

**Table: Example tags**

<b>Source (sample)</b>	<b>Type of source</b>	<b>Medium of delivery</b>
IHS Jane's Weapons Infantry (2015-2016)	primary	written
Panel discussion of weapons use of non-state armed groups	secondary	oral
Documentary on paramilitaries in Colombia	primary	visual

## About the Guide

The Interactive Guide on **Small Arms and Light Weapons** is an open access tool, designed to build knowledge on how to identify different types, makes and models of commonly used SALW in organized violence; to collect data on the global and country-specific spread of these SALW; and to describe some of their visual and technical specifications.

The guide is not an exhaustive list of all SALW that are used around the world.

Global SALW control relies on, among other things, data and knowledge of the weapons themselves. Our aim is that the Guide will be used to support national reporting duties on SALW holdings; facilitate and ameliorate the collection of data on SALW; and increase general knowledge of global distribution of SALW.

The interactive Guide was developed by **BICC** in close cooperation with the **Bundeswehr Verification Center** (BwVC), and with the generous support of the *Federal Foreign Office, Germany*.

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