

# SALW Guide

Global distribution and visual  
identification










## Guyana






Country report

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

# Weapons Distribution

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

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| AK-47 / AKM      |  |
| AK-74            |  |
| Beretta M 12     |  |
| FN FAL           |  |
| HK G3            |  |
| Lee-Enfield SMLE |  |
| Norinco Type 63  |  |

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| RPG 7                 |  |
| Simonov SKS           |  |
| Sten MP               |  |
| Sterling MP L2A3      |  |
| Strela (SA-7 / SA-14) |  |
| Webley Mk. IV         |  |

## 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.

## AK-47 / AKM

The AK 47 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 variations. The weapons are used by all former Warsaw Pact countries, and they are in service with numerous armed forces, both regular and irregular. They can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <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 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 variations. The weapons are used by all former Warsaw Pact countries, and they are in service with numerous armed forces, both regular and irregular. They can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <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    |



## Beretta M 12

The weapon has three safeties: a manual safety which blocks the trigger; an automatic safety on the rear grip which immobilizes the trigger and blocks the bolt in a closed position; and a safety on the cocking handle locking the bolt in case it does not retract sufficiently. A novel feature is the grip safety which locks the trigger and the bolt in the closed position, thus safeguarding against accidental firing if the grip is not held firmly or if the gun is dropped.



|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Category</b>         | <i>Submachine Guns</i>                                     |
| <b>Operating system</b> | Blowback operated, selectively-fired, fires from open bolt |
| <b>Cartridge</b>        | 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)                                  |
| <b>Length</b>           | 418 mm   |
| <b>Feeding</b>          | Box magazine   |

The following ammunition can be used by the **Beretta M 12**:

## 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)

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



## FN FAL

The FN FAL (Fusil Automatique Leger - Light Automatic Rifle) is one of the most famous and widespread military rifle designs of the 20th century. It can be found in both the 7.62 NATO and, very rarely, the 5.56 NATO versions. The furniture may be wood, metal or plastic. There are various barrel lengths. In the UK (L1A1), Canadian, Indian and Dutch versions, there is no automatic fire mode. The gas system is fitted with a gas regulator, so that it could be easily adjusted for various environment conditions, or cut off completely, so that 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 |



## HK G3

The furniture can be wood or plastic. The plastic stock may be green, sand or black. There is also a collapsing stock. The rifle is hammer fired and has a trigger mechanism with a 3-position fire selector switch that is also the manual safety toggle that secures the weapon from accidentally discharging (fire selector in the “E” or “1” position - single fire mode, “F” or “20” - automatic fire, “S” or “0” - weapon is safe, trigger disabled mechanically). The weapon can be fitted with an optional 4-position safety/fire selector group illustrated with pictograms with an ambidextrous selector lever. The additional, fourth selector setting enables a 3-round burst mode of fire. Around 10 million items have been produced.



|                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Category</b>         | <i>Assault Rifles</i>         |
| <b>Operating system</b> | Roller-delayed blowback       |
| <b>Cartridge</b>        | 7.62 x 51mm / .308 Winchester |
| <b>Length</b>           | 1023 mm                       |
| <b>Feeding</b>          | Box magazine                  |

The following ammunition can be used by the **HK G3**:

### 7.62 x 51mm / .308 Winchester

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



## Lee-Enfield SMLE

Rifles manufactured in the USA may have “UNITED STATES PROPERTY” on the left side of the receiver. Some of the Indian-made weapons can be found using 7.62 NATO caliber. The Lee-Enfield family of rifles is the oldest bolt-action rifle design still in official service. Lee-Enfield rifles are used by reserve forces and police forces in many Commonwealth countries, particularly Canada, where they are the main rifle issued to the Canadian Rangers, and India, where the Lee-Enfield is widely



issued to reserve military units and police forces. Many Afghan participants in the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan were armed with Lee-Enfields (a common rifle in the Middle East and South Asia).

|                         |                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Category</b>         | <i>Rifles &amp; Carbines</i>     |
| <b>Operating system</b> | Manually operated, rotating bolt |
| <b>Cartridge</b>        | 7.7 x 56mm R / .303 British      |
| <b>Length</b>           | 1130 mm                          |
| <b>Feeding</b>          | Box magazine                     |

The following ammunition can be used by the **Lee-Enfield SMLE**:

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

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



## Norinco Type 63

The China North Industries Corporation, officially abbreviated as Norinco, developed Norinco Type 63, sometimes erroneously referred to as the Type 68. It entered into production in 1969, but production ceased in 1978 with approximately six millions items manufactured. The rifle suffers from reliability problems and is almost uncontrollable when fired in the automatic mode. Optically, the Type 63 resembles the Simonov SKS, though it features a longer barrel and an operating mechanism based on the AK-47. The rifle has been widely exported in the past, so residual numbers may remain in use.



|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Category</b>         | <i>Rifles &amp; Carbines</i>                         |
| <b>Operating system</b> | gas, selective-fire                                  |
| <b>Cartridge</b>        | 7.62 x 39mm  |
| <b>Length</b>           | 1029 mm  |
| <b>Feeding</b>          | detachable, box magazine or charger-loading facility |

The following ammunition can be used by the **Norinco Type 63**:

## 7.62 x 39mm

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



## 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        |

The following ammunition can be used by the **RPG 7**:

## Simonov SKS

The SKS is a self-loading weapon. 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. The charging handle is attached to the right side of the bolt carrier and moves when the gun is fired. The safety switch is located inside the trigger guard. The early model 50 weapons are shorter and are usually found without a bayonet. In general, the SKS is an excellent all-around weapon that offers a slightly longer range and better accuracy than the Kalashnikov AK-47, but, for military use, it lacks the magazine capacity and selective-fire capabilities. 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>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 MP

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. The series was referred to as the „Gerät Potsdam“ and approximately 28,000 weapons were made. 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 MP**:

## 9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)

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



## Sterling MP L2A3

Sterling submachine guns were widely manufactured for export. More than 70 countries purchased various quantities of Sterling submachine guns. 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 9x19 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 MP 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> |
| <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)**:

## Webley Mk. IV

The Webley Mk. IV was in service with the British Forces for 45 years, thus it is widespread in the former British colonies. All Webley top-beak revolvers featured two piece frame, which hinges ("breaks") down at the forward low end for ejection and loading. The ejector is actuated automatically when the frame is broken open, simultaneously removing all six cases from the cylinder. The cartridges then can be inserted by hand. In the case of revolver being rechambered for .45ACP round, half-moon clips are used to load the gun (two clips, each for 3 rounds).



|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Category</b>         | <i>Self-Loading Pistols &amp; Revolvers</i> |
| <b>Operating system</b> | Double action revolver                      |
| <b>Cartridge</b>        | .455 British Service                        |
| <b>Length</b>           | 286 mm                                      |
| <b>Feeding</b>          | Cylinder                                    |

The following ammunition can be used by the **Webley Mk. IV**:

### .455 British Service

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Bullet diameter | 11.5 mm |
| Case length     | 19.6 mm |
| Overall length  | 31.2 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 |
|--|---------|-----------|
|--|---------|-----------|

|                |  |   |
|----------------|--|---|
| <b>Written</b> | <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> |
| <b>Oral</b>    | <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>   |
| <b>Visual</b>  | <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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