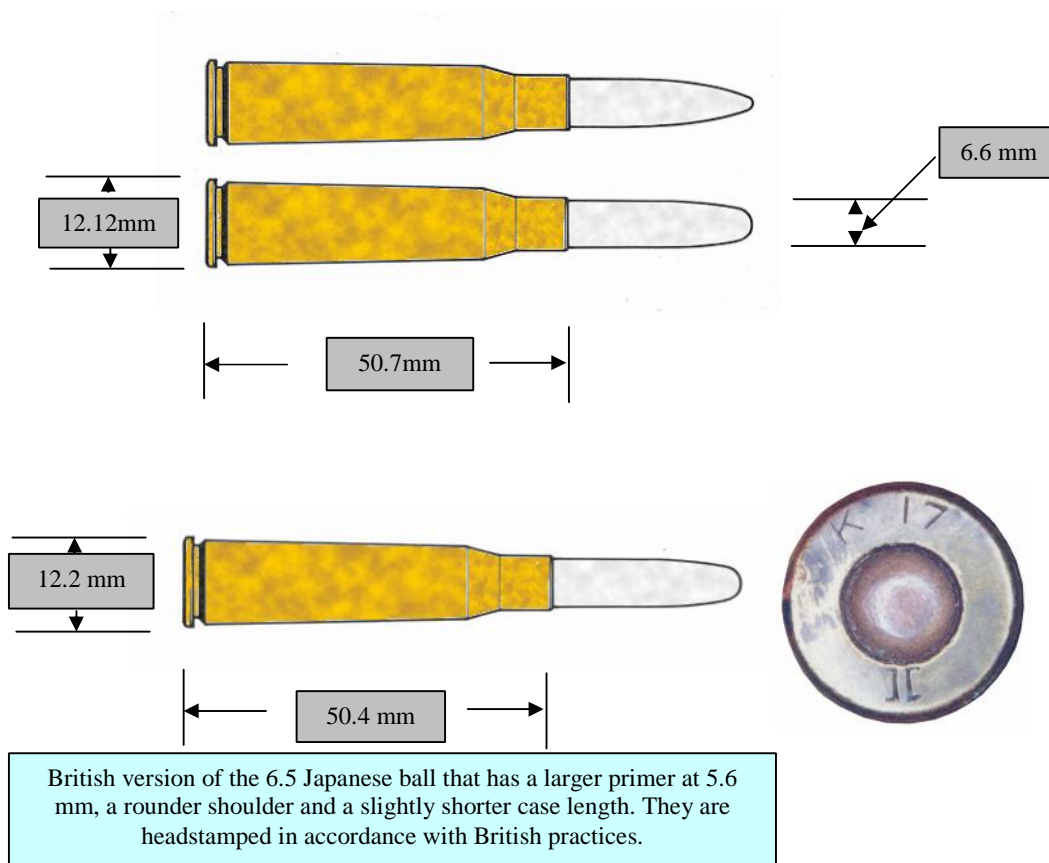


## 6.5 x 50 ARISAKA

This cartridge was originally developed for the Model 30<sup>th</sup> year rifle and was round nosed, semi-rimmed and made only in ball and dummy. The designation of the cartridge followed that of the rifle. Some minor changes to the weapon and the cartridge in 1905 resulted in the adoption of the Model 38 bolt-action rifle. The cartridge has a very small capacity but oddly enough the action of the Model 38 Arisaka is one of the strongest around so there is no real necessity for the limited capacity. Barnes mentions that the Arisaka can be loaded to levels well above the standard military load.

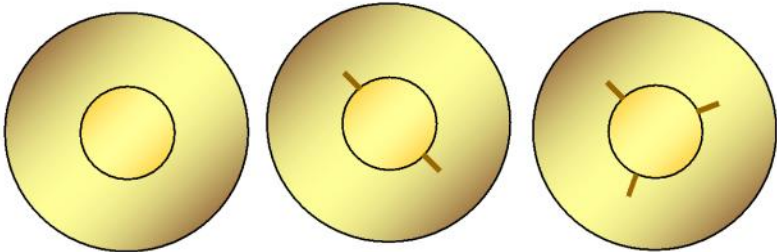
The changes made to the cartridge were minor with the obvious variation being the adoption of a spitzer projectile. The propellant load was increased to 33 grains from the original 32. Some problems were experienced at this time with projectile cores being blown through the jacket. Thickening the jacket and increasing the length to 32.16mm from 32.0mm cured the problem. The projectile was a spitzer weighing 139 grains and having a cupro-nickel jacket. The jacket material was changed in 1942 to gilding metal and, at the same time the propellant load was reduced to 30 grains. The identification of these cartridges is by the pink case mouth seal and the three primer stakes. The primer in all cases was 4.95 mm.



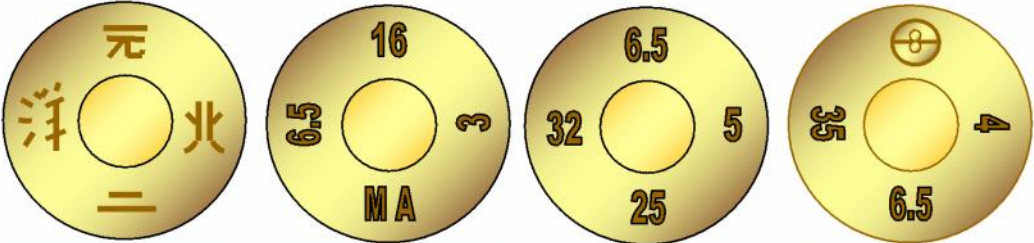


Sectionised 6.5 ball showing left, the strengthened jacket and right the original. The strengthening was to prevent the loss of the core through it.

Primers were secured in the original cases were simply press fitted, later versions were staked in two places and then finally three stakes.



No headstamps were used on Japanese 6.5mm Arisaka. Other countries made ammunition for Japanese weapons and these were headstamped.

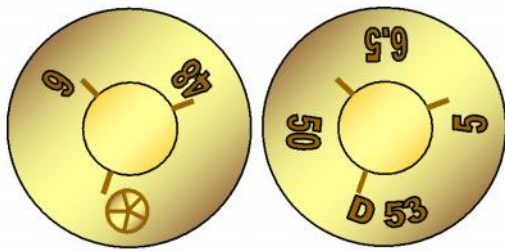


6.5 made at Peiyang Arsenal circa WWI.

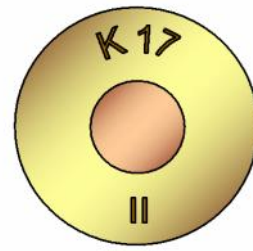
6.5 made at Mukden Arsenal between the wars.

6.5 made at factory number 25 during WWII.

6.5 made at factory number 90 post WWII.



6.5mm Arisaka ammunition made by the Chinese Communist Government in factories left behind by the Japanese after their defeat in 1945.



Headstamp used by Kynoch on 6.5 mm made for weapons used by British naval personnel and for supply to Russia in WWI.



Headstamp found on Austrian 6.5mm possibly of commercial origin.



6.5 mm produced by Nordiska Metallaktiebolaget, Sweden.



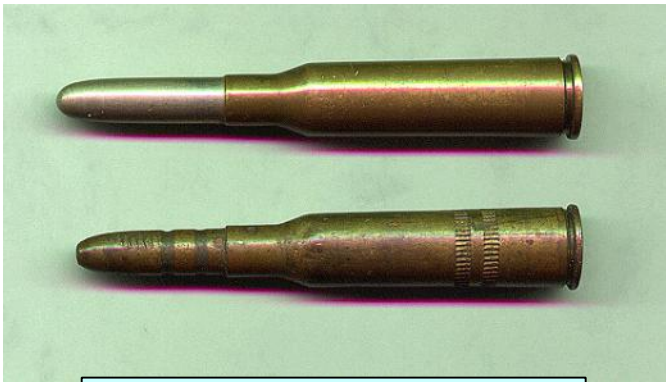
6.5 mm produced by Karlsborg, Sweden.



An interesting 6.5 mm made for the Rangoon Police Force by Showa Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha

Colour codes used on 6.5 x 50 Arisaka.

Type	Case mouth colour
Ball	Red
Ball prac	Brown
Ball short range	Pink
Ball reduced charge	Red
Ball snipers	None known
Tracer	Green
Armour Piercing	Black
Blank	Purple or red paper proj
Drill	2 grooves in case



Top. Type 30 Ball. Bottom dummy version.



Left to right. Dummy, Ball with nickel jacket and Ball with cupro-nickel jacket.



5 round clip for the type 38 rifle. This is the steel version.

Colour coding for 6.5 x 50

