

GRENADE RIFLE No. 42 & 43

Introduced in January 1919 and retained in service until August 1956. These grenades are similar but differ in that one is designed to be used as a day signal, No. 42 and the other as a night signal, No. 43. They were designed for use in the grenade discharger fitted to the .303 rifle.

They had a cylindrical cardboard body containing a small parachute and a smoke candle in the No. 42 and three coloured stars joined by asbestos cord in the No. 43.

The colour markings were as follows:

No. 42 had a drab buff colour with a wavy line indicating the smoke colour

No. 43 had three coloured discs in the colours and the sequence of the stars when they appeared. The body was a drab colour, a sort of varnished cardboard look.

The candles were issued in the No. 42 in the following colours:

Red

Blue

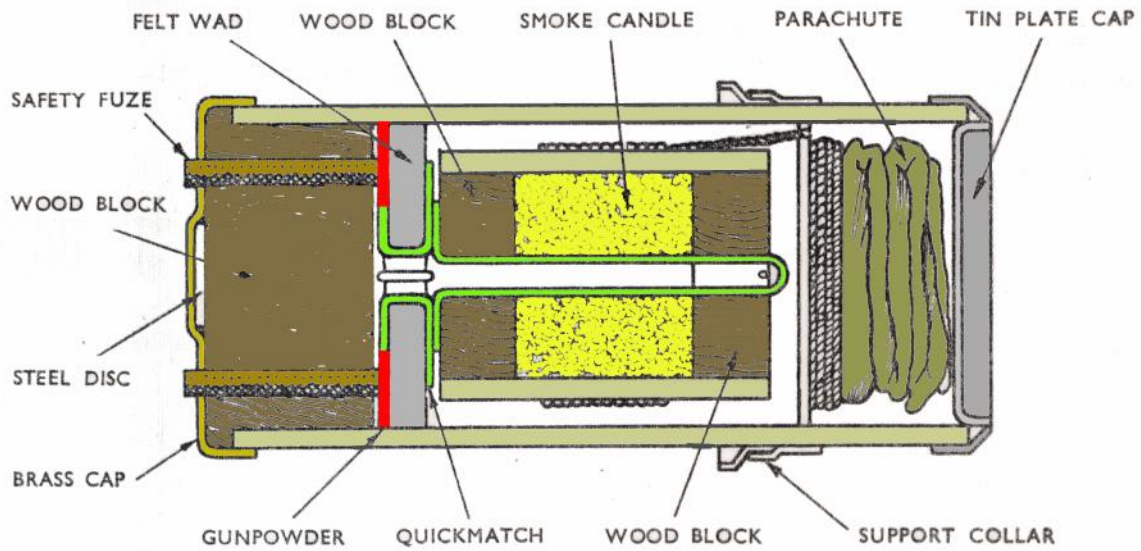
Yellow

Purple.

The red candle burned for 20 seconds and all the other colours for 10 seconds.

Grenade rifle No. 42 Day Signal





ACTION.

No action is required prior to firing. Insert the grenade into the discharger cup and, using a Ballistite cartridge fire the rifle at about 70°. The flash from the propellant ignites the two pieces of safety fuze. These burn for about ½ a second. The flash from the fuze is passed to a layer of quickmatch lining the inside of the smoke candle and also to the gunpowder which ejects the candle and the parachute from the body of the grenade. The actions for the No. 43 are essentially the same.

