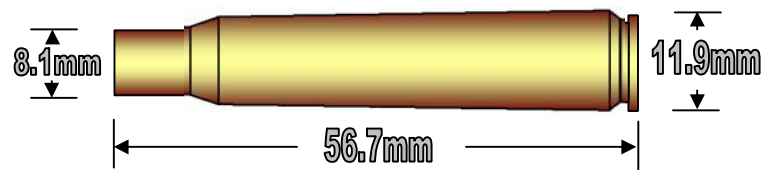


7.92mm BESA MG.

The UK just prior to the outbreak of WWII adopted this cartridge when they realized that they were short of weapons. They looked at another Czech machine gun the Zb 53 M1937 and applied it to the secondary armament on their tanks. The original calibre of 7.92mm was retained because of the impending conflict as it was considered unwise to change the calibre to .303 in whatever time they had left. Adopted in May 1939 and dropped in 1966. The cartridge was used as the machine gun on tanks throughout the war. I believe the cartridge is interchangeable with the 8mm German cartridge. Even though England had not used this calibre prior to 1939 their industries had been making the ammunition for the Chinese and other armies.



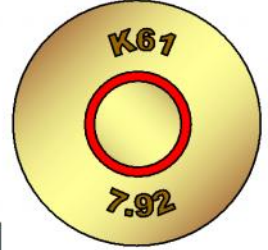
A section of BESA links.



Mk. 1 and 2 ball cartridges showing different jacket materials.



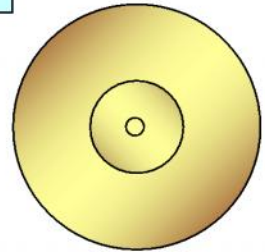
Mk 2 AP.



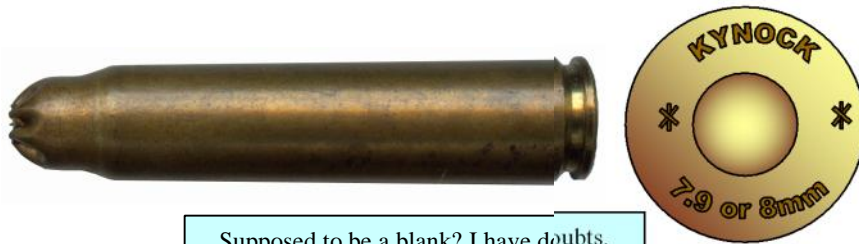
The red tip is a definite tracer, the green tip is believed to be an experimental tracer but the primer annulus suggests AP.



This is a minimally marked Incendiary cartridge. The blue primer annulus is very hard to see.



Drill cartridges, the bottom one has an empty primer pocket, the centre is a purpose built drill and is headstamped as such. The top one is unheadstamped and shows the early style of drill markings.



This is definitely a blank but is it military?



This is an instructional cartridge for use in a classroom setting. It is clearly marked with the word "INERT" and has a spent primer.