E. THE NORTH KOREAN 7.62-MM TYPE 68 PISTOL

25. General

a. The North Korean 7.62-mm Type 68 pistol (fig 18) is a product improvement on the Soviet TT-33 pistol (para 13 to 18). The Type 68 when contrasted to the TT-33 appears shorter and bulkier (fig 19); internally, the improvements are even more pronounced. The link system used to unlock/lock the barrel of the TT-33 is replaced by a simple cam similar to that of the Belgian M1935 HiPower pistol. There are other minor changes which improve reliability and handling, such as the relocated magazine catch and improved method of retaining the firing pin.

b. The one-way interchangeability of magazine should be noted. The TT-33 magazine will work in the Type 68; the latter's

Figure 18. North Korean Type 68 pistol.

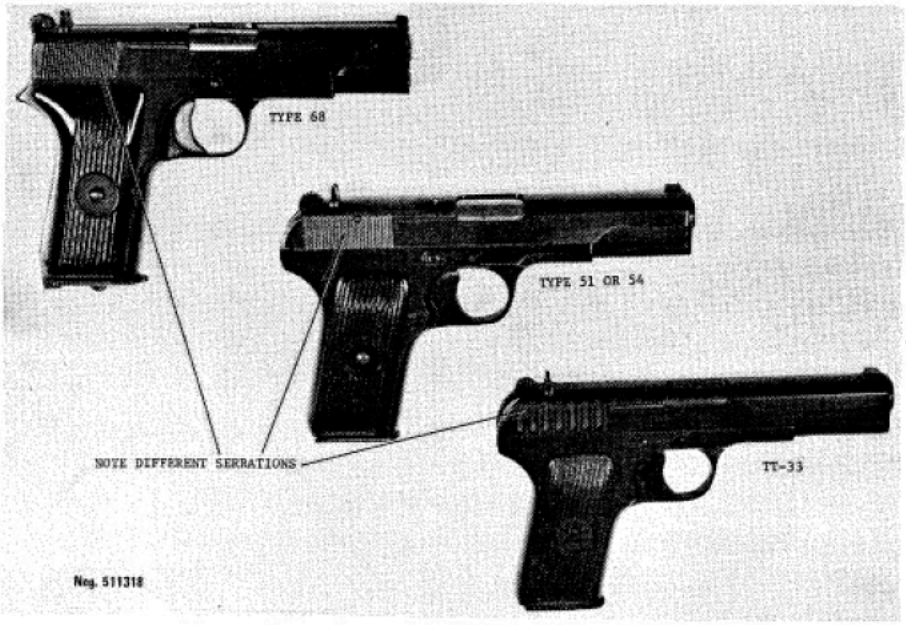


Figure 19. Comparison of Type 68 and TT-33 pistols.

magazine, however, will not work in a TT-33 because the Type 68 magazine lacks the cut for the magazine catch. The hammer mechanisms, while similar, are not interchangeable, nor are any other parts. The Type 68 pistol fires 7.62x25-mm ammunition (sec VI).

26. Technical Data

Technical data concerning the Type 68 pistol will be found in table II.

27. Operation

a. Load the magazine by placing a cartridge on the follower, pressing down, and then sliding it to the rear. Insert the loaded magazine into the pistol until it is caught by the magazine catch.

b. Grasp the slide by the grooves and pull it fully to the rear against the pressure of the driving spring. Release the slide; the driving spring will force it forward, loading the pistol. (Note: If the hammer is at half cock, the slide cannot be retracted.)

CAUTION: The pistol is now ready to fire!

c. The Type 68 pistol has no safety; however, the hammer can be carefully lowered to the half-cock position (part way between fully forward and cocked). Hold the hammer back with the left thumb and press the trigger. After easing the hammer slightly forward, release the trigger, and continue easing the hammer forward until it stops in the half-cock position. This also locks the slide in its forward position.

d. To fire, bring the hammer back to full cock (if at half cock), aim—using the conventional sight picture—and squeeze the

trigger. The pistol will fire one shot each time the trigger is pressed. When the last round is fired, the slide will remain open. Remove the magazine by pressing the magazine catch (fig 18) rearward; pull the magazine out of the pistol. Close the slide by pressing down on the slide stop or, after removing the magazine, pull the slide slightly to the rear and release it.

e. To clear the pistol, remove the magazine, retract the slide, press the slide stop up, and ease the slide forward until the slide is caught by the slide stop. Inspect the chamber through the ejection port to insure that no cartridges are present. Release the slide, pull the trigger, and insert the magazine.

28. **Disassembly and Assembly**

a. Clear the pistol (para 27e), but do not reinsert the magazine.

b. Draw the slide rearward until the end of the slide stop is aligned with the half-round notch in the slide. Hold the slide in position and press out the slide stop pin (from right to left); this operation requires some practice. Pull the slide stop out of the pistol. Pull the slide forward and off the receiver (fig 20).

c. Pull the hammer mechanism up and out of the receiver.

d. Pull the driving spring guide toward the muzzle (that is, from engagement with the barrel) and remove the spring and guide. Lift the lug on the barrel; then draw the barrel back and out of the slide. No further disassembly is necessary to clean the weapon or give it routine maintenance.

e. Reassemble the pistol by inserting the barrel into the slide until the muzzle projects through the bushing. Then pull the

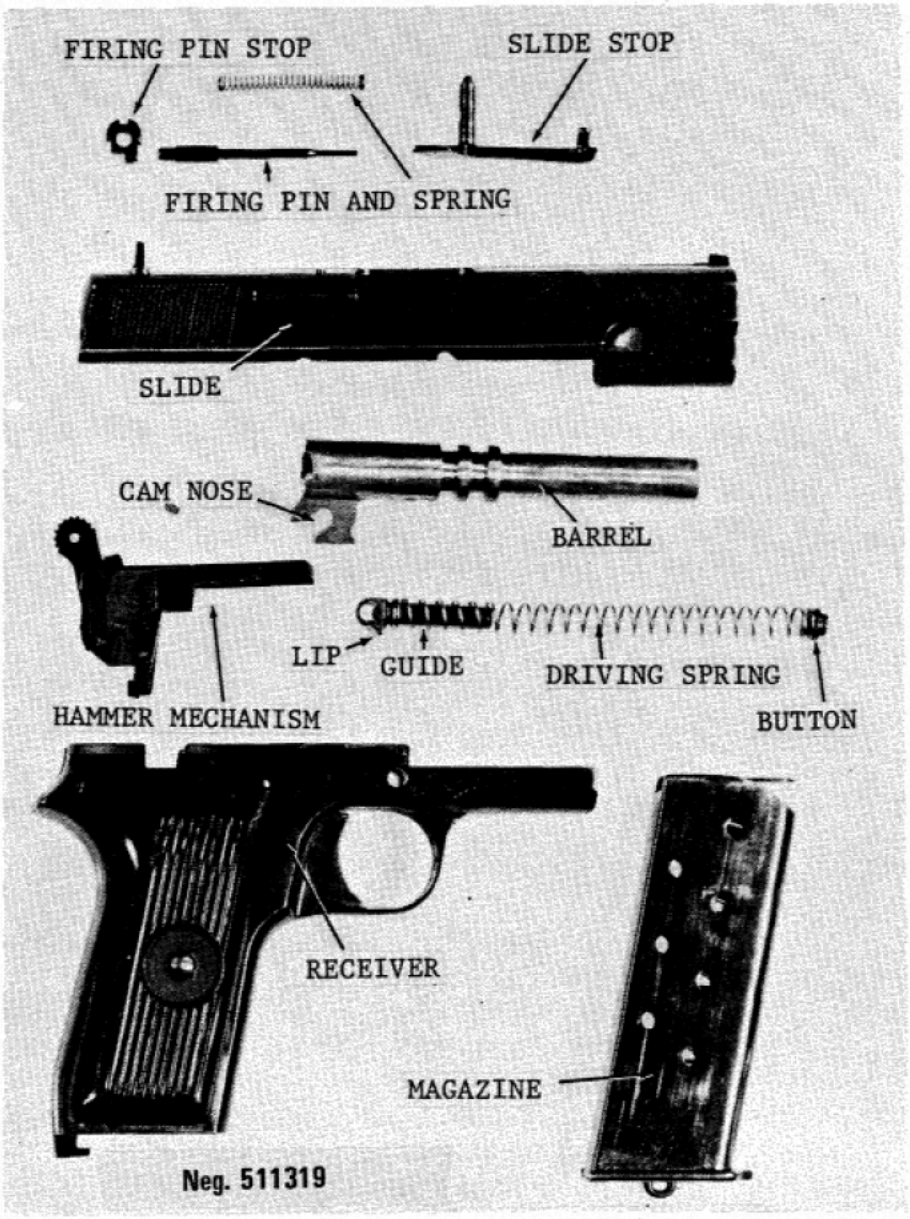


Figure 20. Type 68 disassembled.

barrel back until it drops into locked engagement with the slide. Insert the button (fig 20) on the driving spring into the tunnel on the slide, and engage the guide with the barrel. The lip on the guide must point away from the barrel (fig 20).

f. Place the hammer mechanism back into the receiver; insure that it is fully seated. Center the barrel in the slide and mate the grooves in the slide with those of the receiver. Pull the slide onto the receiver, and insert the slide stop into its hole (left or right) as far as possible. Pull the slide rearward until the notch on the slide is alined.

29. Functioning

a. The Type 68 pistol is recoil operated; that is, the recoil of the cartridge transmitted through the barrel and slide provides the power to expel the fired cartridge case, compress the recoil spring for reloading, and cock the hammer mechanism.

b. When the pistol is loaded and cocked, finger pressure on the trigger causes it and its bar to move rearward, against the pressure of the trigger spring, until the trigger bar contacts the bottom of the sear. Continued pressure on the trigger causes the sear to release the hammer. Under the force of its spring, the hammer swings forward and strikes the firing pin to fire the cartridge.

c. The barrel is locked to the slide by ribs (machined into the outer surface of the barrel) that mesh with grooves in the slide. A lug on the bottom rear of the barrel rides on a transverse pin in the receiver. As the barrel moves to the rear in recoil, while locked to the slide, a cam nose on the barrel lug (fig 20) contacts the transverse pin and

pulls the barrel down. This unlocks the slide from the barrel and, because of its momentum, the slide continues to the rear. As the slide recoils, the driving spring is compressed and the extractor withdraws the fired cartridge case from the chamber. The extractor holds the cartridge case against the slide face until the case strikes the ejector on the left extension of the hammer housing. The fired cartridge case pivots around the extractor and is expelled. The rearward movement of the slide terminates when the driving spring housing at the bottom front of the slide strikes the receiver.

d. The compressed driving spring expands and drives the slide forward; the feed rib of the slide strikes the top cartridge in the magazine and drives the cartridge into the chamber. The extractor snaps into the groove of the cartridge case. The slide strikes the barrel and drives it forward, and the cam forces the rear end of the barrel up into the locked position. All forward motion stops when the lug on the bottom rear of the barrel contacts the driving spring guide.

e. Before the slide recoils, the disconnector projects upward from the hammer mechanism into a cut in the slide. When the slide recoils, the disconnector is forced down, pushing the trigger extension down and releasing the sear. The sear spring then presses the sear against the hammer. As the slide continues to recoil, it rocks the hammer back so that the sear engages the sear notch on the hammer. When the slide counterrecoils, the sear holds the hammer cocked; when the slide is fully forward, the disconnector is free to raise into the cut in the slide. This action allows the trigger bar, under the pressure of the trigger spring, to rise against the bottom of the sear. When the trigger is released, it moves forward. As the trigger bar

clears the sear, the trigger spring again forces the trigger bar up into position in front of the sear. Pressure on the trigger will now fire the pistol again.

f. When the hammer is drawn to the half-cock (safe) position, the bottom of the sear is forced to its foremost position and a lug on the side of the sear moves into position below the disconnector to prevent it from being depressed. Because the disconnector protrudes into a cut in the slide and now cannot be depressed, the slide is locked in position. The sear nose engages the undercut half-cock notch on the hammer. Because of the undercut, the sear cannot be disengaged from the hammer by trigger pressure. The pistol is now safe.

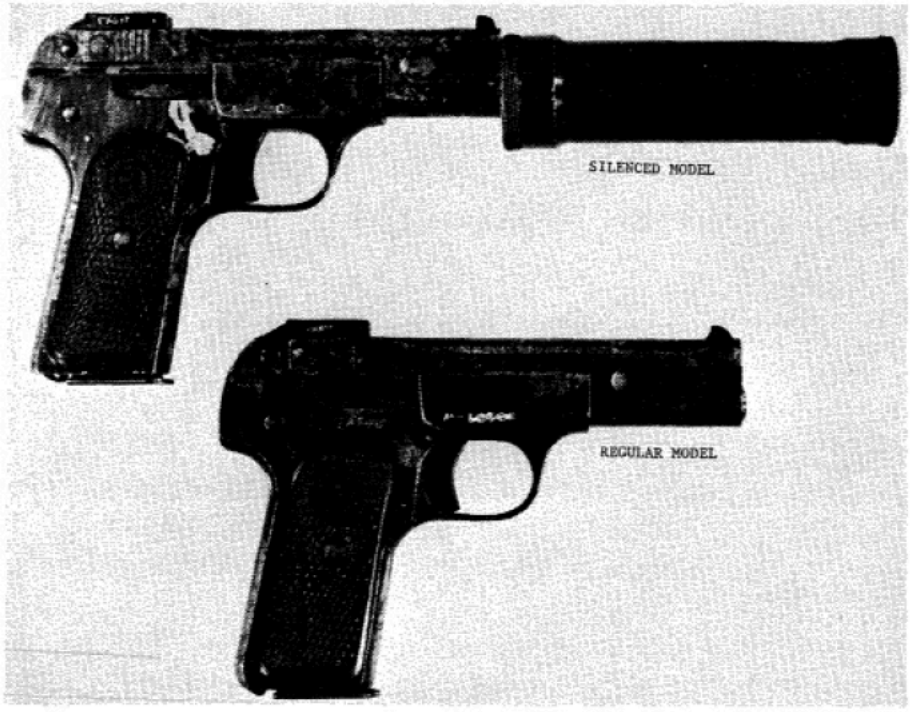
g. When the last round is fired, the magazine spring, working through the magazine follower, forces the slide stop up against the slide. The slide stop engages the notch on the side of the recoiling slide and holds the slide open.

30. Accessories

The usual pistol accessories (holster, cleaning rod, spare magazines, etc.) are available for use with the Type 68 pistol.

51. The North Korean Type 64 Pistols (Browning Type)

a. The North Korean Type 64 pistol (fig 31) is a copy of the old Browning Model 1900 pistol. This blowback-operated semiautomatic weapon can be readily identified by the odd "over-under" appearance of its barrel and driving spring housing. The North Korean pistol can be further identified by the stamping 1964 7.62 on its left side.



Neg. 511330

Figure 31. North Korean Type 64 pistols.

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b. A version of the North Korean Type 64 pistol is fitted with a Maxim-type silencer (fig 31). This version, the Type 64 silenced pistol, has a shortened slide, and the protruding end of the barrel has fine threads for the attachment of the silencer. These pistols both are stamped with a 7.62-mm caliber designation; despite this, both weapons fire the 7.65x17SR (.32 ACP) cartridge.

c. The Type 64 (New Type) pistol (fig 31.1) can be identified by its distinctive outline, large five-pointed star on the grips, or the double circled star stamped into the left side of the slide. As in the case of the preceding pistols, the slide is marked 7.62-mm but the weapon does fire the 7.65x17SR (.32 APC) cartridge.

Neg. 529353
Figure 31.1. North Korean Type 64 (New Type) pistol.

leg. 511384
Figure 85. Hungarian AKM assault rifle.

leg. 511385
Figure 86. Hungarian AMD assault rifle.

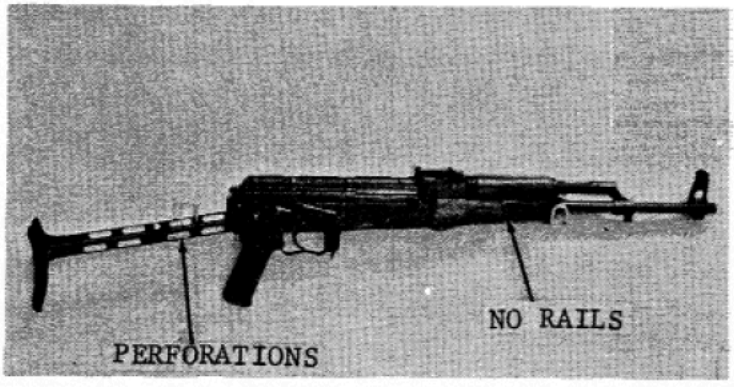

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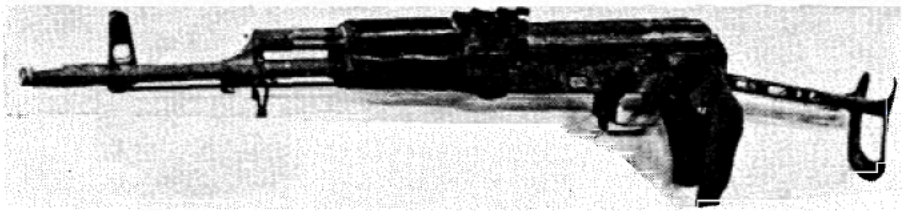
Figure 87. North Korean Type 68 assault rifle (folding stock).



Neg. 529357
Figure 87.1. North Korean Type 68 assault rifle with compensator.

98. Technical Data

Technical data concerning the modernized Kalashnikov assault rifle will be found in table VI.

99. Operation

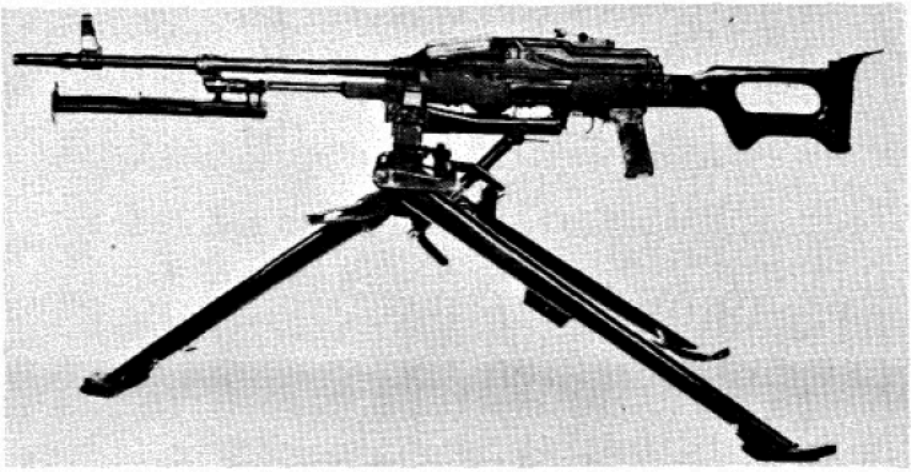
The AKM is operated in the same manner as the AK-47 assault rifle (para 92). The stock of the Hungarian AMD can be opened or folded after pressing the stock button (fig 86).

100. Disassembly and Assembly

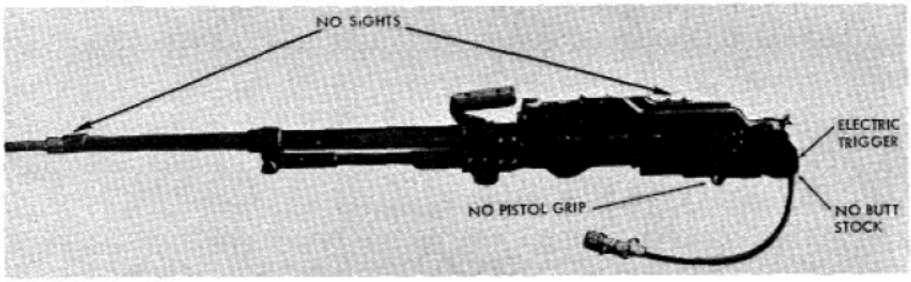
Disassembly and assembly of the AKM is accomplished in exactly the same way as the AK-47 assault rifle (para 93).

101. Functioning

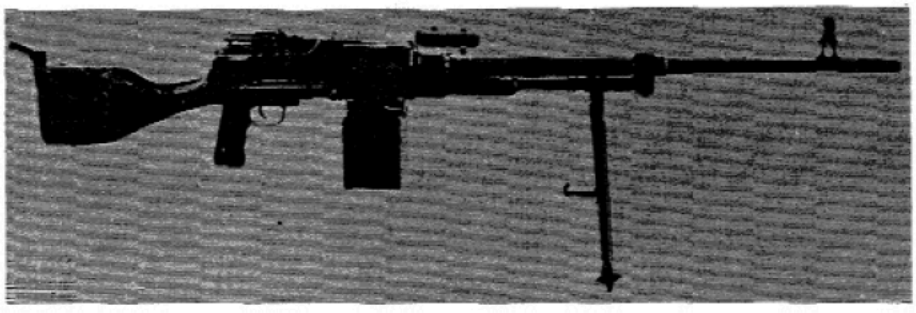
The AKM's functioning is identical to that of the AK-47 (para 94), except that AKM's (except the North Korean Type 68) have a cyclic rate reducer. This unit (fig 88) lies alongside the trigger and the semiautomatic sear and replaces one of the twin lugs on the trigger. The cyclic rate reducer functions by momentarily holding the hammer in the cocked position after the automatic sear has disengaged.



Neg. 515032
Figure 173.1. The PKMS machinegun.



Neg. 511473
Figure 174. Soviet PKT machinegun.



Neg. 529363
Figure 174.1. The North Korean Type 68 machinegun.

Neg. 529364
Figure 174.2. Type 68 machinegun rear sight.

b. The PK was also designed by Kalashnikov, and because of this its bolt mechanism resembles that of the Kalashnikov design AK-47 assault rifle (para 90). The feed mechanism is a combination of Goryunov (para 215) and Czechoslovak M59 (para 209) machinegun features. The trigger mechanism is of Degtyarev design (para 173). The PK guns have generally replaced the RP-46 company machineguns and the SGM heavy machineguns for the ground role. The PKS can also be used for antiaircraft fire (fig 182).

COUNTRY: North Korea

MODEL: Unknown

TYPE: Hand, fragmentation

LENGTH: 128 mm

DIAMETER: 54 mm

WEIGHT: 600 g

FILLER: TNT, 60 g

FUZE: Striker release

FUZE DELAY: 3.2 to 4.2 s

CONSTRUCTION: Cast aluminum body with 140 to 150 cast iron balls embedded in it.

COLOR CODE/MARKINGS: Olive green

RANGE/TERMINAL EFFECTS: Effective casualty radius of about 20 meters.

REMARKS: A variation also reported with a plastic body.

COUNTRY: North Korea

MODEL: Unknown

TYPE: Hand, fragmentation

LENGTH: 128 mm

DIAMETER: *See remarks below

WEIGHT: 370 g

FILLER: Composition B, 55 g

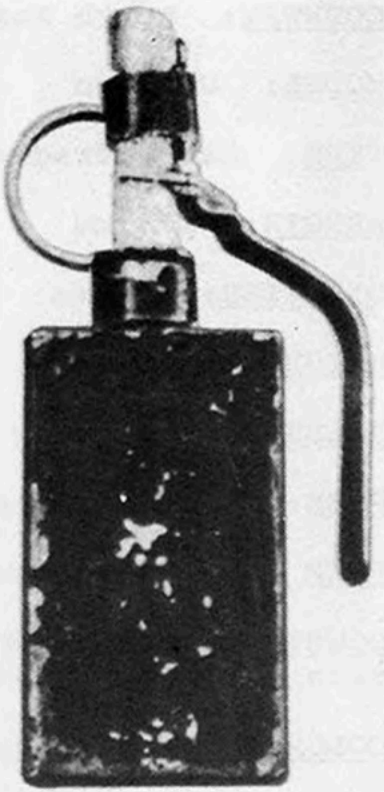
FUZE: Striker release

FUZE DELAY: 3.2 to 4.2 s

CONSTRUCTION: Sheet steel body with about 130 steel balls in a cavity between the outer wall and the explosive filler.

COLOR CODE/MARKINGS: Olive green

RANGE/TERMINAL EFFECTS: Effective casualty radius of 20 meters.



REMARKS: The grenade body is actually a 42x27x76-mm shaped rectangular box.

COUNTRY: North Korea

MODEL: Unknown

TYPE: Hand, lacrimatory

LENGTH: 190 mm

DIAMETER: 65 mm

WEIGHT: 350 g

FILLER: CS mixture/TNT

FUZE: Pull friction

FUZE DELAY: 3 to 4 s

CONSTRUCTION: Sheet- steel body with a wooden handle. Small explosive burster to disseminate the CS filler.

COLOR CODE/MARKINGS: Light bluish/green with a red band and the letters "CS".

RANGE/TERMINAL EFFECTS: Can be thrown about 20 meters. Produces a 10-meter diameter coverage area.

REMARKS: The grenade is a copy of a Vietnamese grenade used during the Vietnam War period. (NOTE: The illustration is of a Vietnamese grenade, but it is apparently almost identical to the North Korean version.)

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