

The Worlds Assault Rifles

In the thirty years after the Second World War, the British army entered a period of intense technological development. Due to the lack of surviving documentation, this period is almost a second Dark Age. What survives shows the British Army's struggle to use cutting edge technology to create weapons that could crush the Soviet Union's armed forces, all the while fighting against the demands of Her Majesty's Treasury. On this journey, the Army entertained ideas such as micro-tanks of about 20 tons in weight with two-man crews, massive 183mm anti-tank guns, devastating rocket artillery, colossal anti-tank guided missiles and ended up on the cusp of building hover tanks. This book takes a look at the

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records from a time period of increasing importance to the tank historian and starts the process of illuminating the dark age of British tanks.

Now the standard weapon for British soldiers across the globe, the SA80's early years were surrounded in controversy after a series of dismal performances. It was prone to jamming in desert conditions, had several flimsy parts that would often break after repeated use and had an incredibly sensitive magazine catch. When these issues came to light the SA80 was lambasted by the news, leading to the Ministry of Defence ordering an extensive modification programme that dramatically improved reliability. Combat accounts and in-depth analysis of the SA80's performance in Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan and Iraq guide the reader through its

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troubled life, while vivid artwork helps to illustrate the transformation it underwent; from an unreliable rifle disliked by the soldiers who used it to being one of the world's most innovative and accurate small arms.

During the Cold War, the G3 was one of the world's pre-eminent battle rifles. Developed in France and Spain after 1945, the rifle was produced by the German arms manufacturer Heckler & Koch. Adopted by more than 40 countries and produced on licence by many more, it was widely employed during colonial wars in Africa, insurgencies in Latin America and conflicts in the Middle East, but perhaps its widest use was in the Iran–Iraq War. Variants of the G3 have also seen substantial usage among Special Forces including Britain's Special Boat Service and the US Navy

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SEALs. Semi-automatic versions, especially the HK91 and HK93, remain popular in the United States, and the G3-derived HK11 and HK21 family of light machine guns have also been widely adopted by military and law-enforcement units across the world. Fully illustrated with specially commissioned artwork, this study examines one of the iconic weapons of the Cold War era.

Traces the history of the AK-47 assault rifle, from its inception to its use by more than fifty national armies around the world, to its role in modern-day Afghanistan, discussing how the deadly weapon has helped alter world history.

Traces the history of the gun from the appearance of gun powder and the development of the first cannon in the Middle Ages through the high-tech firearms of the late-twentieth

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century

Assault Rifle provides a comprehensive account of the development of the military assault rifle and its ammunition from WW2 to the present day. The book is in two parts. The first part includes: Brief historical summary of the assault rifle, its origins and development; Gun design including operating mechanisms and weapon configuration; Ammunition design and performance; Ballistics, especially the balance between recoil and effectiveness; History of assault rifle cartridge. The second part includes: National military rifle programs since the end of WW2; History of developments in each country including experimental programs; Detailed descriptions of the principal service and experimental weapons.

The Lee-Enfield is one of the 20th century's most

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recognisable and longest-serving military rifles. It was adopted by the British Army in 1895 and only replaced by the L1A1 SLR in 1957. It saw combat from the Boer War onwards, and thousands are still in use today; it is estimated that 17 million have been produced. Soldier's recollections of the rifle are overwhelmingly affectionate (it was known as the Smellie); today it remains a very popular target rifle for competitive shooting, and modern copies are being manufactured to meet demand. Featuring first-hand accounts, brand-new full-colour artwork and close-up photographs, this is the story of the Lee-Enfield, the innovative, reliable and long-lived rifle that equipped British and other forces through the world wars and beyond. The World's Assault Rifles Ironside International Publishers,

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Inc.

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[German Submachine Guns and Assault Rifles \(of World War II\).](#)

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[Build Working Replicas of Four of the World's Most Impressive Guns](#)

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The AK-47, or 'Kalashnikov', is the most abundant and efficient firearm on earth. It is so light it can be used by children. It has transformed the way we fight wars, and its story is the chilling story of modern warfare. C. J. Chivers's extraordinary new book tells an alternative history of the world as seen through these terrible weapons. He traces them back to their origins in the early experiments of Gatling and Maxim, and examines the first appearance of the machine-gun. The quest for ever greater firepower and mobility culminated in the AK-47 at the beginning of the Cold War, a weapon so remarkable that, over

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sixty years after its invention and having broken free of all state control, it has become central to civil wars all over the world. The Kalashnikov AK-47 is the most ubiquitous assault rifle in the world, with more AK-47s and its variants in use than any other individual small arm. Created by Senior Sergeant Mikhail Kalashnikov, and first adopted by the USSR soon after World War II, its production continues to this day, with an estimated 75 million produced worldwide. This book takes a look at the complete history of the weapon, discussing its design, development, and usage, taking its story from the great armies of the Soviet Union to the insurgents and criminal gangs that often employ the weapon today. The Russian word that is most frequently spoken throughout the world isn't Lenin, gulag or perestroika, it's Kalashnikov?.

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The reason for this is simple: there are 80 million Kalashnikovs in circulation on five continents. Once invented, the AK-47 assault rifle became the most widely used weapon in the world: from Vietnam to Palestine, from Cuba to Iraq, it was at the heart of conflicts and struggles everywhere. It is the only firearm that has ever been depicted on a national flag – that of Mozambique, where it symbolizes liberation. Mikhail Kalashnikov himself, who was born in 1919, here tells his life story, with the help of Elena Joly, for the first time: his deportation to Siberia with his family while still a child; his time as a soldier in a tank regiment; his invention of the world's most famous weapon and his turbulent life under Stalin, Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Gorbachev and Yeltsin. This is a remarkable portrait of a man of ingenuity and vitality in the

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context of the often frightening and terribly unforgiving Russia of the twentieth century.

This comprehensive volume details the circumstances surrounding the development and fielding of the machine carbine, machine pistol and assault rifles employed by Hitler's Wehrmacht. It also includes a complete review of the ammo, field accessories and special equipment intended for the short cartridge weapon.

Small arms have developed hugely since the introduction of the machine gun in the 1870s. Magazine-fed rifles, submachine guns, automatic pistols and, later, assault rifles and personal defence weapons have changed the face of infantry warfare, offering a range of weaponry designed for both the specialist and novice. The World's Greatest Small Arms features 52

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weapons from the late 19th century to the present day. The book includes the best-known weapons from throughout the modern era, from the Gatling gun, SMLE rifle and Luger pistol, to the Uzi, FN MAG and the M110 sniper rifle. Great iconic weapons, such as the Colt M1911 pistol, Bren Gun, MP5 submachine gun, and Steyr AUG rifle are featured, as well as timeless classics still in use today: the M2 Browning 50 cal, AK-47 and M16 rifle. Each weapon is examined over four pages and is illustrated with a colour profile artwork and photographs, along with a description of the weapon's development and history, key features and a full specifications box. Including more than 200 artworks and photographs, The World's Greatest Small Arms is a colourful guide for the military historian.

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Of all the infantry small arms developed during World War II, one that generated the most interest was the German 'assault rifle', the StG 44 Sturmgewehr. This innovative weapon inspired the Soviet AK-47 in 7.62x39mm calibre. In the West, the NATO countries looked hard at new weapons to upgrade their own infantry arsenals and counter the AK-47, resulting in the design of the Fusil Automatique Léger or FAL. It proved to be a successful battle rifle and was soon adopted by the military and police forces of no fewer than 93 nations. The FAL dominated the militaries of the West to such a degree that its nickname became the Right Arm of the Free World. The FAL fulfilled every role it was asked to perform and remains a viable and well-respected weapon to this day.

Freedom Group, one of the largest gun manufacturers in the

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world, specializes in assault rifles and other military-style firearms. The company made the Bushmaster XM-15 assault rifle used at Sandy Hook Elementary School. [This report shows] how Freedom Group sells and markets these weapons. This e-book is a reference guide on modern submachine guns and assault rifles. It covers more than 50 weapons from 27 countries and provides photos and basic information with specifications. It is easy to read and will be useful for people interested in military hardware. It is a great first step in identifying and researching submachine guns and assault rifles. It is a bargain for rock solid information like this. Hope you can buy it!

[The FN FAL Battle Rifle](#)

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21. Chapters: Armoured fighting vehicles of Yugoslavia, Weapons of Yugoslavia, AK-47, M101 howitzer, PK machine gun, korpion vz. 61, Zastava M76, M48 Mauser, M80 Rocket Launcher, M24 series, BOV, Zastava M84, M79 Rocket Launcher, M-87 Orkan, Zastava M72, M60 recoilless gun, M75 hand grenade, M56 Submachine gun, Zastava M80, Zastava M87, PM M71 Floating Bridge, TMD-1 and TMD-2 mines, M1 gas mask. Excerpt: The AK-47 is a selective-fire, gas-operated 7.62x39mm assault rifle, first developed in the Soviet

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Union by Mikhail Kalashnikov. It is officially known as Avtomat Kalashnikova. It is also known as a Kalashnikov, an "AK," or, in Russian slang, Kalash. Design work on the AK-47 began in the last year of World War II (1945). After the war in 1946, the AK-46 was presented for official military trials. In 1947 the fixed-stock version was introduced into service with select units of the Soviet Army. An early development of the design was the AKS-47 (S-Skladnoy or "folding"), which was equipped with an underfolding metal shoulder

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stock. In 1949, the AK-47 was officially accepted by the Soviet Armed Forces and used by the majority of the member states of the Warsaw Pact. The original AK-47 was one of the first true "assault rifles" to be manufactured, after the original Sturmgewehr 44. Even after six decades the model and its variants remain the most widely used and popular assault rifles in the world because of its durability, low production cost, and ease of use. It has been manufactured in many countries and has seen service with armed

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forces as well as revolutionary and terrorist organizations worldwide. The AK-47 was the basis for developing many other types of individual and crew-served firearms. More AK-type rifles have been produced than all other assault rifles combined. Firing the 7.62x39mm cartridge, the AK-47 produces...

Of all the infantry small arms developed during World War II, one that generated the most interest was the German 'assault rifle', the StG 44 Sturmgewehr. This innovative weapon fired an intermediate cartridge much

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more powerful and long-ranged than the standard pistol rounds used in submachine guns, but smaller and lighter than a full-size 7.92mm rifle round, producing less recoil and enabling the soldier to carry more ammunition. The StG 44 and the Soviet weapon it inspired, the AK-47 in 7.62x39mm calibre, could still effectively and accurately engage targets on semi-automatic out to 300m, but when close-range firepower was needed could fire on full-automatic like a submachine gun. In the West, the NATO

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countries looked hard at new weapons to upgrade their own infantry arsenals and counter the AK-47. Although British and other designers developed their own prototype assault rifles chambered for intermediate cartridges, the Americans adopted the M14 'battle rifle' and forced a common full-length calibre, 7.62x51mm, on their NATO allies. Fabrique Nationale of Belgium designed a new military rifle, the Fusil Automatique Léger or FAL, as an assault rifle using a true intermediate cartridge, but this innovative

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weapon also proved to be a successful battle rifle when adapted for the full-length NATO round. It was soon adopted by the military and police forces of no fewer than 93 nations around the globe, from the United Kingdom to Israel, and was manufactured under licence on every populated continent. It remains in production to this day and is regarded by most as the quintessential postwar battle rifle. In fact, the FAL dominated the militaries of the West to such a degree that its nickname became the Right Arm of the Free World.

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Roughly comparable in terms of size and weight to other contemporary battle rifles such as the American M14 and the German Heckler & Koch G3, the FAL proved to be reliable and well loved by its users. It performed reliably in a wide variety of small wars and insurgencies, in the hands of professional soldiers as well as those of hastily trained conscripts and essentially untrained guerrillas. It proved itself in harsh environments as varied as the cold, wet, featureless Falkland Islands in the South

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Atlantic, the snow and ice of Norway and northern Canada, the deep jungles of Vietnam and Malaya, the deserts of the Middle East, and the streets of Belfast. While thankfully never called upon for its original intent - facing down hordes of mechanized Soviet infantry on the plains of Western Europe - the FAL fulfilled every role it was asked to perform and remains a viable and well-respected weapon to this day.

SA80 infantry weapons have been the British Army's primary assault rifles for 30 years. This

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highly illustrated title will appeal to military and firearms enthusiasts, and military buffs. The M16 rifle is one of the world's most famous firearms, iconic as the American weapon of the Vietnam War—and, indeed, as the U.S. military's standard service rifle until only a few years ago. But the story of the M16 in Vietnam is anything but a success story. In the early years of the war, the U.S. military had a problem: its primary infantry rifle, the M14, couldn't stand up to the enemy's AK-47s. The search was on for a replacement

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that was lighter weight, more durable, and more lethal than the M14. After tests (some of which the new rifle had failed) and debates (more than a few rooted in the army brass's resistance to change), Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara ordered the adoption of the M16, which was rushed through production and rushed to Vietnam, reaching troops' hands in early 1965. Problems appeared immediately. Soldiers were often not adequately trained to maintain the new rifle (in fact some were told the new rifle was "self-

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cleaning”), nor were they always given cleaning supplies or instructions. The harsh jungle climate corroded the rifle’s chamber, exacerbated by the manufacturer’s decision against chrome-plating the chamber. The ammunition that accompanied the rifles sent to Vietnam was incompatible with the M16 and was the principal cause of the failure to extract malfunctions. The result was the M16 often jammed, making the rifle “about as effective as a muzzleloader,” in the words of one officer. Men were killed in combat

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because they couldn't return fire until the malfunction was cleared. Congress investigated and the rifle and its ammunition were incrementally modified, greatly improving its reliability over the next few years. Troop training was also improved. But the damage to the M16's reputation could not be undone, and many soldiers remained deeply skeptical of their rifle through the war's end. Misfire combines insider knowledge of U.S. Army weapons development with firsthand combat experience in Vietnam to tell

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the story of the M16 in Vietnam. Even as it details the behind-the-scenes development, tests, and debates that brought this rifle into service, the book also describes men and M16s in action on the battlefield, never losing sight of the soldiers who carried M16s in the jungles of Vietnam and all too often suffered the consequences of decisions they had nothing to do with.

A beautifully illustrated set of encyclopedias covering pistols, revolvers, machine and submachine guns through history.

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A complete compendium of rifles and shotguns through the ages. A "rifled" firearm is one in which the projectile is made to spin as it travels up the bore. The term "rifle," however, was originally applied to muskets to differentiate them from the earlier smoothbore weapons and is used today to designate the infantryman's personal weapon, fired from the shoulder or the hip, or, in some modern weapons, from a bipod. The rifle has also been used by sportsmen to kill larger game and was also used as a working tool by

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cowboys and trappers during the period of Western Expansion. It progressed from being a muzzle-loader to a breechloading, bolt-operated weapon, then to a semi-automatic weapon, and finally to a lightweight "assault rifle." The emphasis throughout these developments has been in increasing the rate of fire, reducing the weight and making the weapons more accurate, simpler to fire, more reliable, and easier to maintain. The shotgun is a smoothbore weapon originally developed as a hunting device for killing fast moving,

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flying or running prey. Loaded with shot (many small projectiles) the chances of hitting a moving target was greatly enhanced. Like the rifle, the shotgun has undergone similar progression from muzzle-loader to breechloader, bolt action, and finally semi-automatic mode. The weapon has also seen military use in trench warfare and special operations as well as riot suppression by the police. The Illustrated Catalog of Rifles and Shotguns shows the reader over 500 longarms of all types form the early flintlocks of the

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revolutionary period, the percussion cap rifles and repeaters of the Civil War, the famous rifles and shotguns of the Wild West, the standard infantry rifles of two World Wars, to the present day with Assault Rifles, and combat shotguns, together with state-of-the-art sporting rifles and shotguns. Each entry has a color photo along with a description and a technical specification. It is arranged in alphabetical order within five historical periods: Historic, Civil War, The Frontier, Two World Wars, and Modern, plus a separate

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comprehensive Shotgun section.

This paper introduces the first effort to quantitatively document the small arms market by collating field reports and journalist accounts to produce a cross-country time-series price index of Kalashnikov assault rifles. A model of the small arms market is developed and empirically estimated to identify the key determinants of assault rifle prices. Variables which proxy the effective height of trade barriers for illicit trade are consistently significant in determining weapon

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price variation. When controlling for other factors, the collapse of the Soviet Union does not have as large an impact on weapon prices as is generally believed.

While the 20th century brought many technological advancements to the battlefield, a key weapon of warfare remains the soldier and his rifle. This volume chronicles the historical development of the modern service rifle after World War II and examines its resurgence in Afghanistan after generations of absence following the introduction of the

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assault rifle. Individual chapters survey the most combat-tested models—including the FN FAL, U.S. M14 and HK 417—in technical detail, emphasizing key points in the evolution of rifle technology and ammunition. Also explored is the development of the current M16 series rifle, and how recent difficulties in Afghanistan have led to an increasing reliance on the venerable M14. Providing a strong knowledge base of the various weapons now in service throughout the world, this instructive work demonstrates that the battle

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rifle has not outlived its usefulness.

[The M1 Carbine](#)

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[The Lee-Enfield Rifle](#)

[The Gun that Changed the World](#)

[The Global Market for Assault Rifles](#) [LEGO Heavy Weapons](#)

In 1938 the US Chief of Infantry requested that the Ordnance Department develop a carbine to be used by service and support troops, artillerymen, machine-gun crews, tankers, mortar crews and other troops not needing the power of the M1 Garand rifle. The development of this new weapon was given an added impetus by Germany's successful use of airborne and glider troops early on in World War II. This caused a fear amongst US officers that troops normally considered 'behind the lines' personnel

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might have to fight elite German troops and would therefore require a more effective weapon than their standard pistols. The resulting M1 Carbine was a not a shortened version of the standard service rifle but instead a brand-new design chambering a new cartridge. Eventually numerous manufacturers would combine to produce over six million M1 Carbines before the end of the war. This book charts the complete story of the weapon, from its design, to its operational history and its impact upon warfare. In the sixty years since General Kalashnikov created the AK's distinctive silhouette, the gun has been at

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the centre of conflicts across the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. The weapon that made him a 'Hero of the Soviet Union' has also appeared on t-shirts and vodka bottles, featured in videos and song lyrics and been re-fashioned in crystal - a gift from Putin to George W. Bush. Power, politics and passion combine in the story of a weapon that has shaped the modern world. Using testimonies of people who have experienced the gun at first-hand - including a Sudanese child soldier, a Vietcong veteran and a Yorkshire teenager - Michael Hodges provides a compelling account of how the AK47

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became an icon that ranks alongside Coca-Cola as one of the most recognisable brands in the world. Reference work for all those interested in the history of military firearms. It charts the British love affair with the 'flipped' bullpup rifle and machine gun - weapons with their firing mechanism positioned behind the trigger - from a faltering start in the Edwardian period, through the controversy of the NATO rifle trials, to the troubled history of the current SA80 family.

The World's Assault Rifles is a definitive, comprehensive reference book covering the

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militaries of 50 countries in 71 chapters. Comprising more than 1,900 photographs, this book includes extensive assault rifle history, operating and locking systems, ammunition types, individual specifications and much more. With the 1200-page hardcover version weighing 9 pounds and now selling for hundreds of dollars, The World's Assault Rifles, as an eBook, offers convenient transportation and comfortable reading pleasure in the office, at home and during travel, not to mention the low cost. Now used by hundreds of military scholars and agencies world wide, The World's Assault Rifles in eBook

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format will provide instant fingertip access to information unavailable from any other source at an unbeatable price!

The first major biography of “the Thomas Edison of guns,” John Moses Browning, a visionary inventor who designed the modern handgun and whose awe-inspiring array of firearms helped ensure victory in numerous American wars and found an important place in American culture. Few people are aware that John Moses Browning—a tall, humble, cerebral man born in 1855 and raised as a Mormon in the American West—was the mind behind many of the

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world-changing firearms that dominated more than a century of conflict. He invented the crucial design used in virtually all modern pistols, created the most popular hunting rifles and shotguns, and conceived the machine guns that proved decisive not just in World Wars I and II but nearly every major military action since. Yet few in America knew his name until he was into his sixties. Now, author Nathan Gorenstein brings firearms inventor John Moses Browning to vivid life in this riveting and revealing biography. Embodying the tradition of self-made, self-educated geniuses (like Lincoln and Edison),

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Browning was able to think in three dimensions (he never used blueprints) and his gifted mind produced everything from the famous Winchester “30-30” hunting rifle to the awesomely effective machine guns used by every American aircraft and infantry unit in World War II. The British credited Browning’s guns with helping to win the Battle of Britain. His inventions illustrate both the good and bad of weapons. Sweeping, lively, and brilliantly told, this fascinating book introduces a little-known American legend whose impact on history ranks with that of the Wright Brothers, Thomas Edison, and Henry

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Ford.

In this fascinating book, Kahaner tells the story of this ubiquitous and deadly weapon, contrasting it with the admittedly inferior M-16 and chronicling the role the AK-47 has played in conflicts from Vietnam and Iraq to Rwanda and Colombia.

The AK47 assault rifle is the world's most prolific and iconic weapon with more than 80 million produced. Today, the largest threat the armies of the U.S., U.K., and NATO are faced with is not nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons but man's real weapon of mass destruction, the AK47. Much of

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what is written about it, both in books and in the general media, is out of date, technically wrong, incomplete, and hard to understand. Nigel Bennett sets out to truly demystify the AK47 in an easy to read and see format. He takes the reader through the three original basic models of Soviet design—the AK47, the AKM, and the AK74—and then the vast differing worldwide production models. The book gives in-depth coverage of the internal workings of the AK47, highlighting what makes it the "perfect" killing machine.

Provides instructions for building replicas of firearms,

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including a desert eagle, jungle carbine, and an AKS-74U.

[*AK-47*](#)

[*Weaponomics*](#)

[*The Guns of John Moses Browning*](#)

[*The Makarov Pistol*](#)

[*The Dark Age of Tanks*](#)

[*Gew 41, Gew 43, FG 42 and StG 44*](#)

[*The Complete Kalashnikov Family Of Assault Rifles*](#)

[*British Bullpup Firearms, 1901 - 2020*](#)

[*Weaponomics: the global market for assault rifles*](#)

[*The World's Assault Rifles*](#)

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[The Ultimate Illustrated Guide to Guns, Pistols, Revolvers and Machine Guns](#) [The Tragic Failure of the M16 in Vietnam](#)

The Soviet AK47/AKM assault rifle is tough and dependable, and has spawned many spinoffs worldwide. These rifles are now available in the U.S., but solid information on them is scarce. Learn about specs, ammo and more - find out why the AK47 is the world's most widely used gun.

The author of Guns of the Special Forces 2001-2015 presents a comprehensive overview of 21st century military guns used by small

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armies around the world. Soldiers in today's modern armies have access to ever more advanced infantry weapons; lighter, more compact and more accurate than anything seen in the last century. These include combat pistols, personal assault rifles, submachine guns, sniper rifles, shotguns, light machine guns and squad automatic weapons. *Small Arms of the 21st Century* features all these weapons and more, examining each in exhaustive detail. The author draws on the operational combat experience of the users in war zones such as Iraq, Afghanistan and Ukraine. As well as assessing and comparing

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the potency of different nations weapon systems, the book looks to the future demands of the infantry man.

This book explores the origins, development, combat use and lasting influence of Nazi Germany's automatic rifles, focusing on the Gew 41(W), Gew 43/Kar 43, FG 42 and MP 43/StG 44. The Blitzkrieg campaigns of 1939-40 convinced many observers that most infantry combat took place at closer ranges than the 750-1,000m for which most contemporary rifles were designed. In addition, current bolt-action rifles could not provide the rate of fire required for such engagements. From 1941

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Germany's arms designers took note and produced a new series of infantry firearms that not only transformed squad firepower, but also laid the foundations for postwar assault rifle design. The Gew 43/Kar 43, fitted with a telescopic-sight rail as standard, was one of history's first semi-auto sniper rifles. The FG 42, designed specifically for airborne soldiers, had a landmark straight-in-line design and other features frequently seen in subsequent small arms, notably the US M60 machine gun. Most influential was the MP 43/StG 44, arguably the world's first true assault rifle, which

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delivered formidable full-auto fire from a shortened 7.92mm round. This weapon also went on to influence the design of the greatest assault rifle of all time - the AK-47. This study not only provides a detailed technical description of each weapon, but also explores how the firearms performed on the battlefields of World War II. The combat takes us from the FG 42 in the hands of Fallschirmjäger at Monte Cassino through to StG 44s being used by Waffen-SS soldiers on both the Eastern and Western Fronts. Postwar service is also studied, such as the Gew 43's adoption by the Czech Army and the StG 44's

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use by the Viet Cong in the Vietnam War. Setting each firearm in its tactical and historical context, and employing striking photographs and full-colour artwork, firearms expert Chris McNab sets out the absorbing story of this distinctive and influential series of weapons.

The Makarov Pistol entered service as the primary service pistol in the armed forces and security services of the Soviet Union in 1951. It continues to serve in the forces of the Russian Federation, and the former Soviet Union, and of nations around the world. It has been estimated that some 5 million

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Makarov pistols had been produced in the Soviet Union and Russian Federation alone up to 2002, and production continues for military, police and civil markets in Russia to this day. Additionally, the Makarov Pistol was also produced under license in East Germany, Bulgaria and China. The Makarov Pistol has served around the world in conflicts and security duties in all climates and terrains, and can claim the distinction of being the first firearm to be carried into space. Despite the large numbers and the widespread use of the Makarov Pistol, it remained a rare and little known firearm among western

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collectors until the end of the Cold War. In the 1990s however, large numbers of Makarov Pistols, accessories and its previously unobtainable 9x18mm cartridge were exported to the west with the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Eastern Bloc, opening up a new field of firearms collecting. While collectors have been documenting and recording the many aspects of the Makarov Pistol over the last 25 years, this information has never been systematically consolidated into a handy reference book - until now. This book documents the Makarov Pistols produced by the Soviet Union and

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Russian Federation, and the Pistole M, the version produced in East Germany. This is the first volume of a two volume series documenting the history, features, manufacturing variations and markings of the Makarov Pistol, its accessories, documentation and other collectibles available to the collector. This is a book by collectors, for collectors, and it is the first comprehensive collector's review of the Makarov Pistol.

This book explores the origins, development, combat use and lasting influence of Nazi Germany's automatic rifles, focusing on the

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Gew 41 (W), Gew 43/Kar 43, FG 42 and MP 43/StG 44. The Blitzkrieg campaigns of 1939-40 convinced many observers that most infantry combat took place at closer ranges than the 750-1,000m. From 1941 Germany's arms designers took note and produced a new series of infantry firearms. This study not only provides a detailed technical description of each weapon, but also explores how the firearms performed on the battlefields of World War II. The combat takes us from the FG 42 in the hands of Fallschirmjäger at Monte Cassino through to StG 44s being used by Waffen-SS soldiers on both the Eastern and

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Western Fronts. Postwar service is also studied, such as the Gew 43's adoption by the Czech Army and the StG 44's use by the Viet Cong in the Vietnam War. Setting each firearm in its tactical and historical context, and employing striking photographs and full-colour artwork, firearms expert Chris McNab sets out the absorbing story of this distinctive and influential series of weapons.

Abstract: This paper introduces the first effort to quantitatively document the small arms market by collating field reports and journalist accounts to produce a cross-

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country time-series price index of Kalashnikov assault rifles. A model of the small arms market is developed and empirically estimated to identify the key determinants of assault rifle prices. Variables which proxy the effective height of trade barriers for illicit trade are consistently significant in determining weapon price variation. When controlling for other factors, the collapse of the Soviet Union does not have as large an impact on weapon prices as is generally believed.

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