

JAPANESE SIGNS

"Lives have been lost unnecessarily through the inability of personnel to understand Japanese signs."

Giving this warning, a recent A.T.I.S. publication continues: "in the Madang-Alexishafen (New Guinea) sector, five men drove a jeep over an area clearly marked in Japanese: "Land Mines Here." All were killed. It was only then that the 20 odd warning signs written on ordinary postcards in the area were noticed."

The publication points out that the Japanese insist in regarding their language as a code secure from the comprehension of Allied troops. They do not hesitate, therefore, to mark openly their signs written in either ideographs or the syllabic Kana, areas and installations which have been mined or booby-trapped.

Following are the principal warning signs, which can be memorised:-

地雷あり

危険あり

危険

注意

觸るな

LAND MINES ARE

DANGEROUS

DANGER

TAKE CARE

DON" T TOUCH

(Adapted from the August 1945 edition of the "Armament Training Bulletin", a monthly magazine for Armourers during the war years.)

JAPANESE ARMAMENT - TYPE & MODEL NUMBERSGENERAL

The type or model numbers of Japanese Armament indicated the year of adoption. There are two distinct systems of recording the years, one coinciding with the foundation of the Japanese Empire and the other based on the period of reign of each of the Emperors.

The period of each reign is known as an era and bears the Emperors name.

JAPANESE YEAR

The Japanese Empire was founded in 660 b.c., and the years are recorded as from this date, thus the year 2560 = 1900, similarly the year 2600 = 1940.

MEIJI ERA

明治

The period of Emperor Meiji's reign is known as the MEIJI ERA, which began in 1868 and ended on 30th July, 1912 - (Japanese year 2572).

TAISHO ERA

大正

The period of Emperor Taisho's reign is known as the TAISHO ERA which began on 31st July, 1912, and ended on the 25th December, 1926.

SHOWA ERA

昭和

This is the present era which began with Emperor Hirohito's reign on the 26th December, 1926.

Most armament adopted since 1926 will be found marked with the year of the Empire, there is, however, a quantity of armament that bearing the year of showa.

The following tabulation will assist in the identification of the type and model numbers.

GUIDE TO JAPANESE "TYPE" DESIGNATIONS

ERAS.			Jap. Year	Calendar	WRAS			Jap. Year	Calendar
MEIJI	TAISHO	SHOWA			MEIJI	TAISHO	SHOWA		
<u>33</u>			2560	1900		<u>12</u>		2583	1923
<u>34</u>			2561	1901		<u>13</u>		2584	1924
<u>35</u>			2562	1902		<u>14</u>		2585	1925
<u>36</u>			2563	1903		<u>15</u>	1	2586	1926
<u>37</u>			2564	1904			2	2587	1927
<u>38</u>			2565	1905			3	2588	1928
<u>39</u>			2566	1906			4	2589	1929
<u>40</u>			2567	1907			5	2590	1930
<u>41</u>			2568	1908			6	2591	1931
<u>42</u>			2569	1909			7	2592	1932
<u>43</u>			2570	1910			8	2593	1933
<u>44</u>			2571	1911			9	2594	1934
<u>45</u>	<u>1</u>		2572	1912			10	2595	1935
	<u>2</u>		2573	1913			11	2596	1936
	<u>3</u>		2574	1914			12	2597	1937
	<u>4</u>		2575	1915			13	2598	1938
	<u>5</u>		2576	1916			14	2599	1939
	<u>6</u>		2577	1917			15	2600	1940
	<u>7</u>		2578	1918			16	2601	1941
	<u>8</u>		2579	1919			17	2602	1942
	<u>9</u>		2580	1920			18	2603	1943
	<u>10</u>		2581	1921			19	2604	1944
	<u>11</u>		2582	1922			20	2605	1945

The underlined figures are the only ones used for type or model numbers in that particular year.

The years from 1912 to 1916 and from 1941 to 1945 repeat themselves, but are distinguished by the character 年 (year) which appears after the figures in the TAISHO ERA. e.g.,

三年式 = 3rd year type = 1914

三式 = Type 3 = 1943

For the year 1940, Type 100 or Type 00 is sometimes used instead of Type 0.

TRANSLATIONS

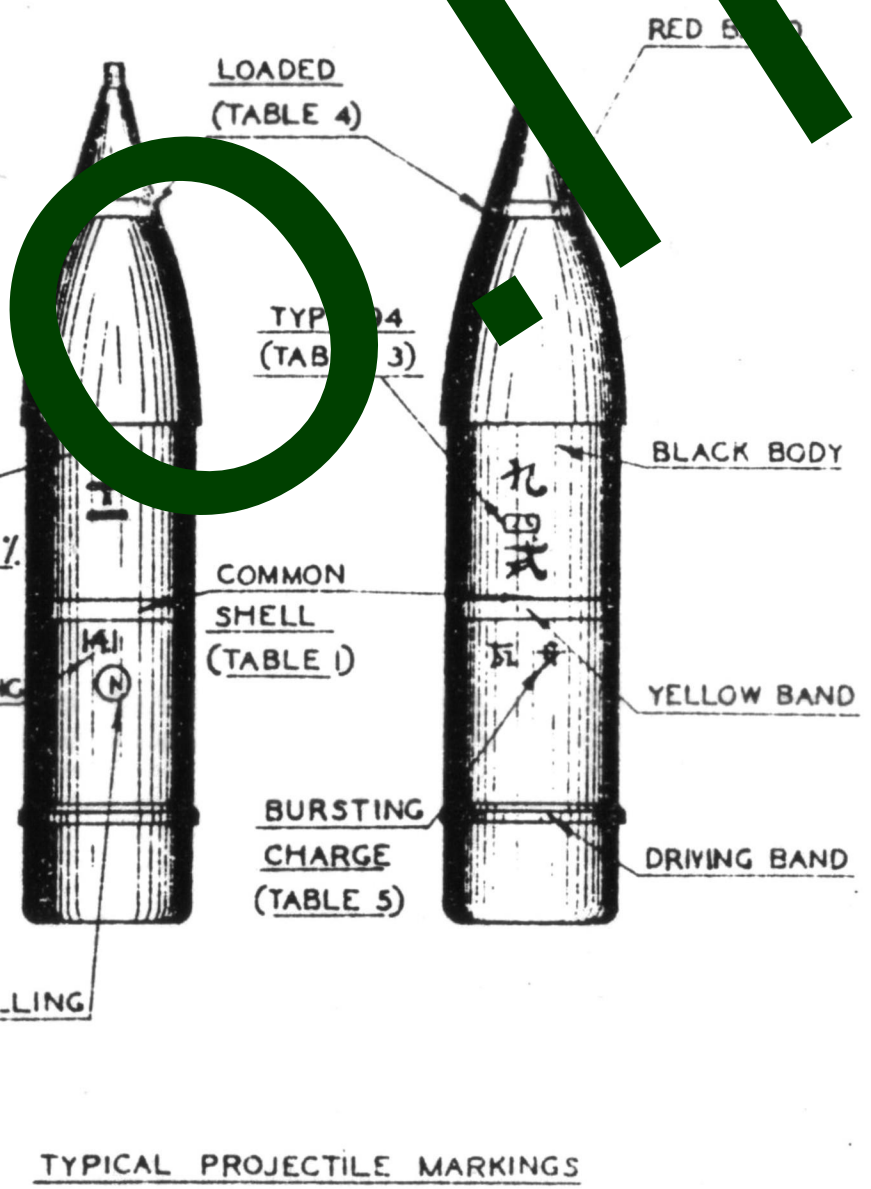
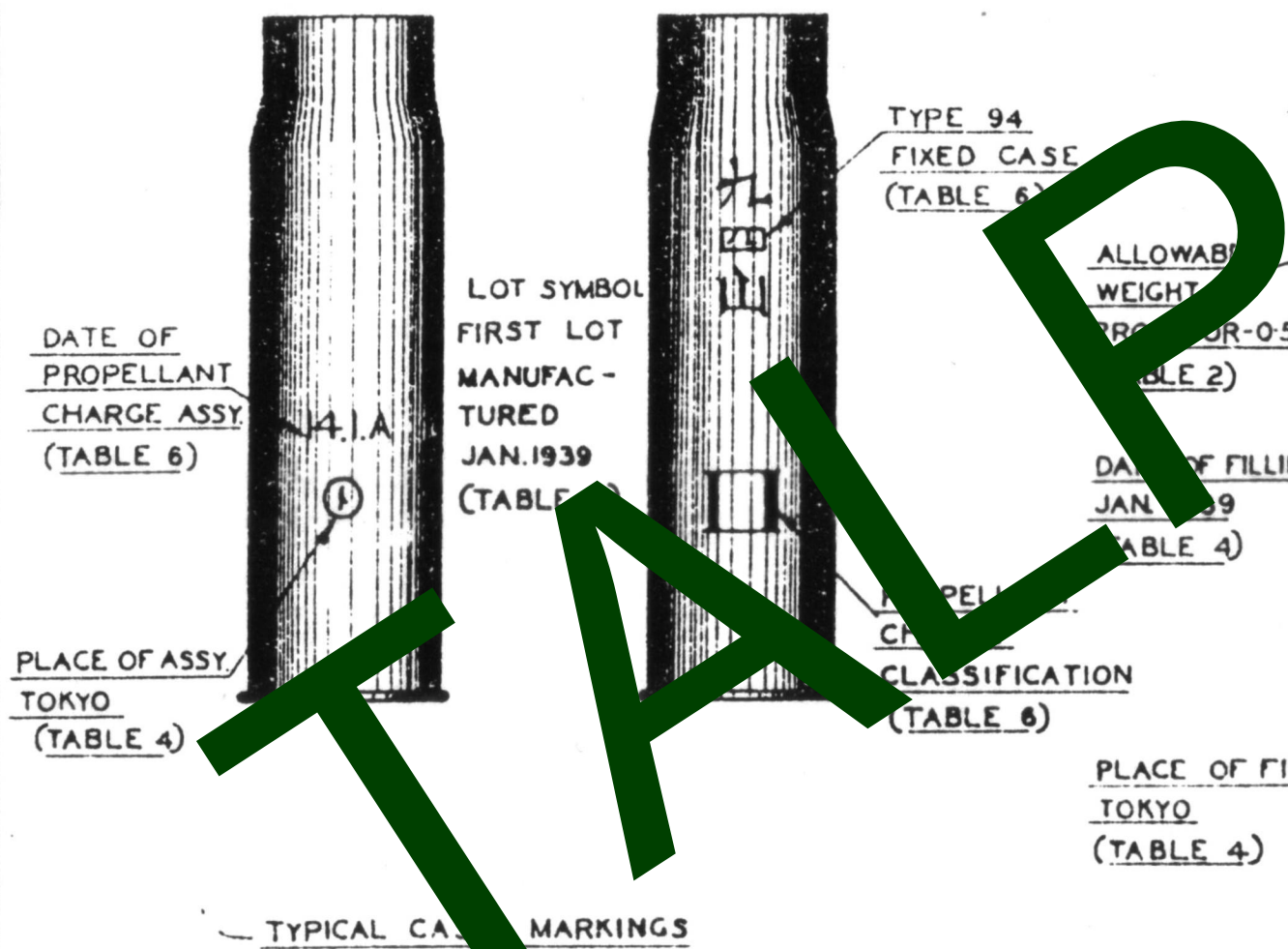
GENERAL

ZERO ○ OR 零		1 一 OR 壹		2 二 OR 貳		3 三 OR 參		4 四		5 五	
6 六	7 七	8 八	9 九	10 十 OR 拾		100 百	1000 千	PREFIX TO NUMERALS 第			
DAY 日	MONTH 月	YEAR 年	MEIJI ERA 明治		TAISHO ERA 大正		SHOWA ERA 昭和				
ARMY 陸軍	NAVY 海軍	AIR FORCE 兵空軍		AIR FORCE 軍空軍		TYPE 式	MODEL 型	MODIFIED 改	IMPROVED 改造		
MARK 号 OR 號		EXPERIMENTAL 試製		TEMP. DESIGNATION 但稱		MODIFIED 修正		MANUFACTURED 製			
GRAM 瓦	KG 斤	METRE 米	CM 厘	MM 毫	GR 大	SMALL 小	WEIGHT 量	SAFE 安	FIRE 火		
NUMERAL FOR COUNTING ROUNDS 發					NUMERAL FOR COUNTING MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTS 箇						
FABRI- 廠 OR 造廠					POWDER FACTORY 火藥製造所						
LIBRE □ 磅		FIRST OR 'A' 甲		SECOND OR 'B' 乙		THIRD OR 'C' 丙		FOURTH OR 'D' 丁			

PYROTECHNICS

COLOUR 色	BLACK 黑	WHITE 白	RED 赤	GREEN 青 OR 綠		BLUE 青	PINK 桃	YELLOW 黃	BROWN 茶		
ILLUMINATING 照明		PARACHUTE 吊		FLARE 光		PARACHUTE FLARE 吊光照明彈		DAY 日	NIGHT 夜		
STAR 星	DRAGON(SMOKE TRAIL) 龍		SIGNAL 信號		TYPE O PARACHUTE FLARE MODEL 2 零式吊光照彈二型						
SMOKE CANDLE 發煙筒			FLAME 焰		PARACHUTE FLARE MODEL 2 MODIFICATION 1 吊光投彈二型改一						
TYPE 94 LARGE SMOKE CANDLE					SMOKE FLARE, MODIFICATION 4 BLACK SMOKE						

AMMUNITION MARKINGS



TAPROBT

COMMON SHELLS, FIXED SHELLS, SPECIAL SHELLS AND S.A.

TYPE OF SHELL		COLOUR MARKINGS		NUMBER OF BANDS	DIMENSION OF BAND	TYPE OF MARKING AND SYMBOLS	
		BODY COLOUR	BAND COLOURS				
COMMON SHELL ARMOUR PIERCING SHELL HIGH EXPLOSIVE L.P. SHELL	COMMON SHELLS	BLACK	YELLOW		EQUAL TO DRIVING BAND WIDTH	CIRCUMFERENTIAL BAND AROUND CENTRE OF CYLINDRICAL PART OF PROJECTILE	
COMMON SHELL, PIG IRON SHELL COMMON SHELL, PIG IRON ARMOUR PIERCING SHELL, CAST IRON H.E. COMMON SHELL, CAST IRON			GREEN				
SHRAPNEL SHELL			RED				
ARMOUR PIERCING SHELL ARMOUR PIERCING SHELL, CAPPED ARMOUR PIERCING SHELL OR H.E. CHILLED							
ARMOUR PIERCING TRACER			GREEN AND WHITE				TWO
COMMON SHELL TRACER			GREEN AND YELLOW				
PRACTICE SHELLS							
COMMON SHELL COMMON SHELL, PIG IRON STEEL COMMON SHELL, PIG IRON COMMON SHELL, CAST IRON	FIXED SHELLS	BLACK	YELLOW	ONE	LARGE CALIBRE 20 m.m. MED. CALIBRE 15 m.m. SMALL CALIBRE	CIRCUMFERENTIAL ABOVE BOURELET OF PROJECTILE	
			GREEN				

TABLE 2

MARKINGS FOR ALLOWABLE WEIGHT ERRORS ARTILLERY SHELLS

TABLE 2

EXCLUDING HEAVY BLANK SHELLS AND AMMUNITION
BELOW 20 m.m.

ALLOWABLE ERRORS IN TOTAL SHELL WEIGHT	MARKINGS				
	SYMBOL	DIMENSION	COLOUR	POSITION	NOTES
ERRORS FROM MINUS 1.5% TO MINUS 2.5% FOR SHELL WEIGHTS BELOW SPECIFIED STANDARDS	— —	SIZE OF SYMBOLS	WHITE: EXCEPT ING IN CASE OF YELLOW OR WHITE PROJE- CTILE WHEN BLACK WILL BE USED	1/4 DISTANCE FROM OGIVE ON CYLINDRICAL PART OF PROJECTILE 1/4 DISTANCE FROM BOURRELET ON STREAM- LINED PART OF FINISHED SHELLS	OR - MARKED SUCCESSIVELY IF SHELL WEIGHT IS ABOVE OR BELOW ALLOWABLE ERROR IN THIS CHART
ERRORS FROM MINUS 0.5% TO MINUS 1.5% FOR SHELL WEIGHTS BELOW SPECIFIED STANDARDS	—	EQUALS			
ERRORS FROM MINUS 0.5% TO PLUS 0.5% FOR SHELL WEIGHTS ABOVE AND BELOW SPECIFIED STANDARDS	±	1/4			
ERRORS FROM PLUS 0.5% TO PLUS 1.5% FOR SHELL WEIGHTS ABOVE SPECIFIED STANDARDS	+	PROJECTILE			
ERRORS FROM PLUS 1.5% TO PLUS 2.5% FOR SHELL WEIGHTS ABOVE SPECIFIED STANDARDS	± +	DIAMETER			

TABLE 3

JAPANESE ARMY AMMUNITION

TABLE 3

MARKINGS FOR PROJECTILE TYPE

NOMENCLATURE	SIZE OF SYMBOLS	POSITION	COLOUR
"TYPE 94" COMMON SHELL (TYPE 94) 九四式	3/10	IN CENTRE OF CYLINDRICAL PART OF PROJECTILE ON OPPOSITE SIDE TO WEIGHT ERROR MARKING	WHITE or alternat- ively in BLACK FOR WHITE OR YELLOW PROJECTILE.
"TYPE 84" COMMON SHELL (TYPE 84) 八四式	PROJECTILE DIAMETER	STENCILLED LONGITUDINALLY IN LINE	

JAPANESE NAVY AMMUNITION

TABLE 7 (cont'd)

TABLE 7 (cont'd)

TYPE OF PROJECTILE	COLOUR MARKINGS			DIMENSIONS OF SYMBOLS BANDS
	BODY COLOUR	BAND COLOURS	SIGNIFICANCE	
<u>SHRAPNEL</u>	GREY	NONE OR YELLOW ON BODY	POINT OF BALANCE	BALANCE BAND WIDTH 50 m.m. FOR 200 m.m. AMMUNITION AND LARGER BALANCE BAND WIDTH 20 m.m. FOR 155 m.m. AMMUNITION UP TO 200 m.m.
<u>PRACTICE</u>	BLACK	YELLOW ON NOSE	PRACTICE	
		WHITE ON BODY	POINT OF BALANCE	
<u>TIME-PRACTICE</u>	BLACK	YELLOW ON NOSE	PRACTICE	
		TWO ROWS OF WHITE DOTS NEAR NOSE	TIME	

NOTE: Projectiles with green nose contain bursting charge.
 Projectiles with red band on green nose are base fuzed.

Illuminating projectiles 15 c.m. and over have a blue body.
 Illuminating projectiles under 15 c.m. have a red body.

Large calibre = 25 c.ms. and above
 Medium calibre = 12 c.ms. and above
 Small calibre = under 12 c.ms.

REF ID: A15510

LEAFLET NO. 3/10

SECTION NO. 3

TABLE 8

JAPANESE SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION
(COMPILED FROM SPECIMENS RECOVERED)

TABLE 8

CALIBRE	TYPE OF CASE	WEAPONS	TYPE OF PROJECTILE	COLOUR MARKING			SERVICE
				CANNELURE	ANULUS	BODY	
6.5 m.m.	SEMI-RIMLESS	INFANTRY RIFLES LIGHT MACHINE GUNS	BALL BALL SNUB NOSE	RED RED	N.A.	NATURAL	ARMY
7.7 m.m.	SEMI-RIMLESS	HEAVY MACHINE GUNS TANK MACHINE GUNS	ARMOUR PIERCING TRACER BLANK (PAPER BULLET) BLANK (WOOD BULLET)	BLACK GREEN PURPLE NIL	N.A.	NATURAL	ARMY
7.7 m.m.	RIMLESS	INFANTRY RIFLES LIGHT MACHINE GUNS	BALL ARMOUR PIERCING TRACER H.E. (FUZELESS) H.E. (.92 ONLY)	RED MAGENTA BLACK GREEN PURPLE WHITE	N.A.	NATURAL	ARMY
7.7 m.m.	SEMI-RIMLESS	AIRCRAFT M.GUN	BALL ARMOUR PIERCING TRACER H.E. (FUZELESS) H.E./INCENDIARY	RED MAGENTA BLACK GREEN GREEN & WHITE PURPLE WHITE	N.A.	NATURAL	ARMY
7.92 m.m.	RIMLESS	AIRCRAFT M.GUN (GERMAN "MG 15")	BALL ARMOUR PIERCING TRACER H.E. (FUZELESS) H.E./INCENDIARY	RED MAGENTA BLACK GREEN GREEN & WHITE PURPLE WHITE	N.A.	NATURAL	ARMY
12.7 m.m.	SEMI-RIMLESS	AIRCRAFT M.GUN	BALL ARMOUR PIERCING TRACER H.E. (FUZELESS) H.E./INCENDIARY H.E./INCENDIARY H.E./INCENDIARY	RED MAGENTA BLACK GREEN GREEN & WHITE PURPLE WHITE	N.A.	NATURAL	ARMY
			H.E./INCENDIARY H.E./INCENDIARY H.E./INCENDIARY	N.A.	N.A.	LIGHT BLUE MARCON GREEN	ARMY
7.7 m.m.	RIMMED	AIRCRAFT M.GUN	BALL ARMOUR PIERCING TRACER INCENDIARY H.E. H.E./INCENDIARY (PHOS)	N.A.	BLACK WHITE RED GREEN PURPLE MAGENTA	NATURAL	NAVY
13.2 m.m.	RIMMED	ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN	BALL ARMOUR PIERCING TRACER	N.A.	BLACK WHITE RED	NATURAL	NAVY

CALIBRE	TYPE OF CASE	WEAPONS	TYPE OF PROJECTILE	COLOUR MARKINGS		SERVICE
				BODY	COLOUR BANDS	
20 m.m.	RIMLESS	AIRCRAFT CANNON "TYPE 97"	H.E./INCENDIARY	BLACK	RED ON NOSE, YELLOW ON BODY	ARMY
			H.E./INCENDIARY (FUZELESS)		RED ON NOSE	
			H.E./INCENDIARY/TRACER		RED ON NOSE - GREEN AND YELLOW ADJOINING ON BODY	
			A.P./TRACER		GREEN AND WHITE ADJOINING BODY	
20 m.m.	RIMLESS	ANTI-TANK CANNON "TYPE 97"	H.E./TRACER	BLACK	RED ON NOSE, GREEN AND YELLOW ADJOINING ON BODY	ARMY
			A.P./TRACER		GREEN AND WHITE ADJOINING ON BODY	
			A.P./TRACER		WHITE ON BODY, GREEN ON BODY AT CASE	
20 m.m.	RIMLESS	A/A A/TK CANNON "TYPE 98"	H.E./TRACER	BLACK	RED ON NOSE, YELLOW AND WHITE ON BODY, GREEN ON BODY AT CASE	ARMY
			H.E./TRACER		RED ON NOSE, GREEN AND YELLOW ADJOINING ON BODY	
			H.E./TRACER (SELF-DESTRUCTING)		RED ON NOSE, GREEN AND YELLOW ADJOINING ON BODY	
			INCENDIARY/TRACER (SELF-DESTRUCTING)		RED ON NOSE, GREEN AND YELLOW ADJOINING ON BODY	
			A.P./TRACER		GREEN AND WHITE ADJOINING ON BODY	

NOTE:- (i) All Army body colours are black excepting only specific shells such as gas and incendiaries which require special handling and storage precautions.

(ii) The "Type 98" has a larger case than "Type 97".

TABLE 8 (Continued)

JAPANESE INTERMEDIATE CALIBRE AMMUNITION
(COMPILED FROM SPECIMENS RECOVERED)

TABLE 8 (Continued)

CALIBRE	TYPE OF CASE	WEAPONS	TYPE OF PROJECTILE	COLOUR MARKINGS		SERVICE
				BODY	COLOUR BANDS	
20 m.m.	RIMLESS	AIRCRAFT CANNON "TYPE 99"	HIGH EXPLOSIVE	BLACK	NIL	NAVY
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE	BROWN	NIL	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE	BROWN	TWO WHITE BANDS ON BODY	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE	ORANGE	NIL	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE/TRACER	RED	ONE WHITE BAND ON BODY	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE/TRACER	RED	TWO WHITE BANDS ON BODY	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE/TRACER	RED	THREE WHITE BANDS ON BODY	
			H.E./TRACER/SELF DESTROYING	RED	NIL	
			H.E./TRACER/SELF DESTROYING	BLACK	NIL	
			H.E./INCENDIARY	GREEN (YELLOW)	NIL	
			H.E./INCENDIARY	"	ONE WHITE BAND ON BODY	
			H.E./INCENDIARY	"	TWO WHITE BANDS ON BODY	
			H.E./INCENDIARY	"	WIDE WHITE BAND ON BODY	
			ARMOUR PIERCING/INCENDIARY	WHITE	NIL	
			TRACER (FUZELESS)	RED	NIL	
TRACER (FUZELESS)	RED	TWO				
TRACER (FUZELESS)	GREEN	NIL				
PRACTICE (FUZELESS)	BLACK	NIL				
25 m.m.	RIMLESS	ANTI-AIRCRAFT "POM-POM" (SINGLE DOUBLE or TRIPLE BARREL)	HIGH EXPLOSIVE/TRACER	ORANGE	NIL	NAVY
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE/TRACER	ORANGE	GREEN BAND ON NOSE	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE/TRACER	RED	GREEN BAND ON NOSE	
			H.E./TRACER/SELF DESTROYING	RED	NIL	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE	BROWN	NIL	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE	MAROON	NIL	
			HIGH EXPLOSIVE	MARCON	GREEN BAND ON NOSE	
			INCENDIARY	GREEN	NIL	
ARMOUR PIERCING /TRACER	BLACK	WHITE BAND ON BODY & WHITE TIP.				