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Webley & Scott

Webley and Son
founded1834
then in 1857 becoming
The Webley and Scott Revolver and Arms Company Ltd

The Webley company was founded in the early 18th century by William Davies, who made bullet moulds. It was taken over in 1834 by his son-in-law, Philip Webley, who began producing percussion sporting guns. The manufacture of revolvers, for which the firm became famous. At that time the company was named Webley & Son. In 1857 Webley amalgamated with W & C Scott and Sons to become The Webley and Scott Revolver and Arms Company Ltd of Birmingham.

Webley's revolvers became the official British sidearm in 1887 and remained in British service until 1964. However after 1921 Webley & Scott service revolvers were manufactured by the government-owned Royal Small Arms Factory in Enfield.

In 1932 the Enfield No.2 .38 inch calibre revolver, based on the Webley & Scott Mark IV, became the standard British service revolver. However, wartime shortages ensured that all marks of the Webley & Scott including models in .455 and .38/200 remained in use through World War Two, and the pistol remained in service as a substitute standard weapon into the early 1960s.

In 1920 the passing of the Firearms Act in the UK, which limited the availability of handguns to civilians, caused their sales to plummet. As a result the company began producing pneumatic guns, their first being the Mark I air pistol.

Demand for air guns increased rapidly in the 1920s and Webley's business began to grow again, with an inevitable peak related to weapons supply for British military use during the Second World War. Declining sales led to the decision to give up firearms manufacture completely in 1979, and Webley then only manufactured and distributed air guns until 22 December 2005, when the company closed down. Webley's dependent company - Venom Custom Shop - ceased trading as well. It was then bought by Wolverhampton-based company Airgunsport.

Until 1979 Webley and Scott manufactured shotguns and revolvers for private use, as well as producing side arms for military and police use. This came to include both revolvers and self-loading (semi-automatic) pistols.

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Webley's production originally consisted of hand-crafted firearms, although mass-production was later introduced to supply police and military buyers.

The first Webley production revolver appeared in 1853. Known as the Longspur it was a muzzle-loaded percussion cap and ball pistol. Some consider it to be the finest revolver of its day as it could shoot as fast as the contemporary Colt revolvers and was faster to load. However the hand-made Longspur could not compete in price with mass-produced revolvers such as the Colt, and production never equalled that of Webley's competitors Adams (Deane, Adams & Deane) or Tranter.

Webley's first popular success came with its first double-action revolver, adopted by the Royal Irish Constabulary in 1867.

There is a well-known story that a pair of Webley RIC Model revolvers were presented to Brevet Major General George Armstrong Custer by Lord Berkeley in 1869, and it is believed that General Custer was using them at the time of his death in the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

There is some question whether the gun or guns presented to George Armstrong Custer were Webley RIC's. Other sources indicate that Lord Berkeley Paget presented Custer with a Galand & Sommerville 44 calibre revolver (manufactured in England by the firm of Braendlin & Sommerville) and gave another to Tom Custer. It is possible of course, that Lord Berkeley Paget may have given Custer two revolvers, both a Galand & Sommerville and a Webley RIC or even given the Custer brothers, in some combination, a pair of Webley RICs and a pair of Galand & Sommervilles. A cased Galand & Sommerville revolver certainly formed part of Tom Custer's estate. Galand & Sommerville 44 revolvers were made to use the same ammunition as the first Webley RIC's, i.e. Webley's .442 centre-fire cartridge.

Almost all of Webley's subsequent revolvers were of a top-break design. A pivoting lever on the side of the gun's upper receiver was pressed to release the barrel and cylinder assembly, which then tilts up and forward on a bottom-front pivot. After loading, the assembly is tilted back into firing position and locked closed.

Webley went on to produce more revolvers for the civilian market. Webley's popular series of pocket revolvers, the British Bulldog, were developed in 1872, available in .442 and .450 calibres, and widely exported.

Although often attributed to Webley, Webley only produced some of the revolvers now commonly referred to as Webley .577 Boxer Revolvers, which used the most powerful handgun cartridge of the day, the .577 Boxer. It was produced by Webley under licence from the firm of William Tranter of Birmingham, whose design it actually was. Webley was just one of several firms licensed to use Tranter's double-action lock and particularly Tranter's patented revolving recoil shield, which was a key feature of the early .577 calibre revolvers.

In the 1880s Webley developed a rugged and powerful revolver for the British military, the Webley Mk 1. Nicknamed "the British Peacemaker" in the United States, it was manufactured in .450, .455 Webley, and .476 calibre and founded a family of revolvers that were the standard handguns of the

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British Army, Royal Navy, and British police constabularies from 1887 to 1918. The Mark VI (known as the Webley Revolver No. 1 Mark VI after 1927) was the last standard service pistol made by Webley; the most widely produced of their revolvers, 300,000 were made for service during World War I.

Webley began experimenting with semi-automatic action in 1900 and in 1909 they began producing a series of semi-automatic pistols for civilian and police use. Their .32 Automatic Pistol was adopted by London's Metropolitan Police in 1911. The same weapon in .38 calibre was used by the Royal Navy as a substitute standard weapon during World War II. The Ordnance Factory Board of India still manufactures .380 Revolver Mk IIz cartridges, as well as a .32 calibre revolver (also known as IOF Mk1) with 2-inch (51 mm) barrel that is clearly based on the Webley Mk IV .38 service pistol.

Models Known To Qualify For Section 7.3

Note: Firearms designed to use Black Powder and are not always suitable to reproof for Nitro cartridges only are NOT included.

Webley WG

Webley WG

The Webley Model WG was a personal protection revolver produced from 1885 to 1912 and bought by many British army officers. The Webley Model WG was chambered for the .455 Webley cartridge.

Designed by a new Webley employee (at the time), Michael Kaufman the Webley WG introduced a number of improvements which later became standard on other Webley revolvers. WG is generally said to stand for "Webley Government", but some say it stands for "Webley-Green", after the inventor of the stirrup lock. The WG does not include a safety. The Service model is the most common one, produced for the military. The Target model is a long-barrelled version produced for competition; it had a long 7.5 inch barrel, a match trigger, and a side plate that allowed access to the mechanism.

Webley & Scott Mk IV

Adopted in 1899, this was an improved Mark 3, made from different steel, with smaller and lighter hammer and wider cylinder slots. Since 1905, some Mark 4 revolvers were also made with 5 inch (125 mm) barrels.
Known as the Boer War model because it was the sidearm of the military forces sent to South Africa between 1899 and 1902.

Webley & Scott Mk IV 1899

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Webley & Scott Mk V *(manufactured prior to 1919)*

Adopted in 1913. Mark 5 was designed to accept smokeless (cordite) ammunition, and thus, had larger and stronger cylinder, and accordingly redesigned frame. When World Ward I started, an order for 20.000 Mark IV revolvers was placed. At the termination of this contract the Mark IV was superseded, in 1915, by the introduction of the Mark VI model.

MkV fitted with Parker Hale .22 Conversion

Webley & Scott Mk V 1913

Webley & Scott Mk VI *(manufactured prior to 1919)*

Adopted in 1915, it was the "ultimate" Webley .455 six-shooter. Mark 6 featured redesigned, more squared grip, 6 inch (152 mm) barrels, removable front sights. Mark 6 revolvers were manufactured by Webley & Scott until 1921, later these were manufactured by Royal Small Arms Factory at Enfield Lock. Officially rendered obsolete in 1932 with the adoption of the Enfield No.2 .38 calibre revolvers, but widely used by British troops during the World War Two.

Webley & Scott Mk VI

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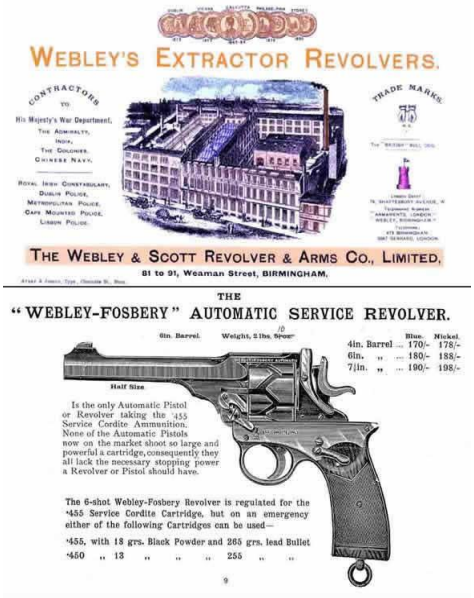
Webley-Fosbery Self-Cocking Automatic Revolver



Advert for Webley Fosbery

This unusual firearm, which combined features (either good and bad) of both revolver and a self-loading pistol was a brainchild of British Colonel G. V. Fosbery. The basic design was conceived during last years of 19th century, and first production guns appeared in 1901. The Webley-Fosbery revolvers were widely tested by various armed forces, but never adopted because of over-complicated design and insufficient advantages over either a double-action revolver (like contemporary Webley & Scott revolvers) or early self loading pistols. Webley-Fosbery revolvers were produced in several modifications up until start of World War One, and it saw limited action in Boer wars, as well as in WW1 in the hands of few British officers who purchased it privately. The Webley-Fosbery is a recoil operated revolver. It has three functional sections: the barrel and cylinder section, the lock and hammer action, and the frame which houses the trigger, recoil spring, grip, and safety.

The process of opening, emptying, and loading the Webley-Fosbery is identical to all other contemporary Webley revolvers. A pivoting lever on the side of the upper receiver is pressed to release the cylinder-barrel section, which tilts up and forward ("breaks") on a bottom-front pivot, simultaneously ejecting the contents of the cylinder chambers. Once loaded the section is tilted back to lock closed.

Webley Fosbery Semi Auto Revolver

Once loaded the Webley-Fosbery is cocked by pressing the entire action-cylinder-barrel assembly as far back as it will go. An internal spring then brings the assembly to ready position.

When the action-cylinder-barrel assembly moves back, either by hand-cocking or recoil, a pivoting lever connected to the frame cocks the hammer while a stud on the frame rides in the zig-zag grooves on the outer cylinder, revolving the next chamber part-way to ready position. When the internal spring brings the assembly forward the stud revolves the cylinder completely, and the chamber lines up with the barrel. Neither pulling the trigger nor manually cocking the hammer alone rotates the gun's cylinder; the entire assembly must be cocked to ensure that a chamber is properly lined up with the barrel.

The Webley-Fosbery is intended to be carried at full cock, ready to fire. The revolver therefore has the unusual feature of a safety catch, which is found on the left side of the frame at the top of the grip. When disengaged the safety lies horizontally along the frame; it is set by pressing it down, disconnecting the hammer from the sear. It can only be set when the pistol is cocked.

In early models, one-directional cylinder rotation was ensured by using a spring loaded operating stud which rode cylinder grooves of varying depths. This design was found to be needlessly complex and in the later models a fixed stud rode grooves of a uniform depth, with overshoot grooves set at the angle of the zig-zag to prevent the stud from permitting the cylinder to turn backwards.

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Webley & Scott

Additional improvements included removing the cylinder retaining latch from the side of the action. The latch was replaced with a spring-loaded stud in the cylinder's top strap.
The final version of the Webley-Fosbery was released in 1914. It had a shorter cylinder than on earlier models and the trigger spring and recoil lever were strengthened.

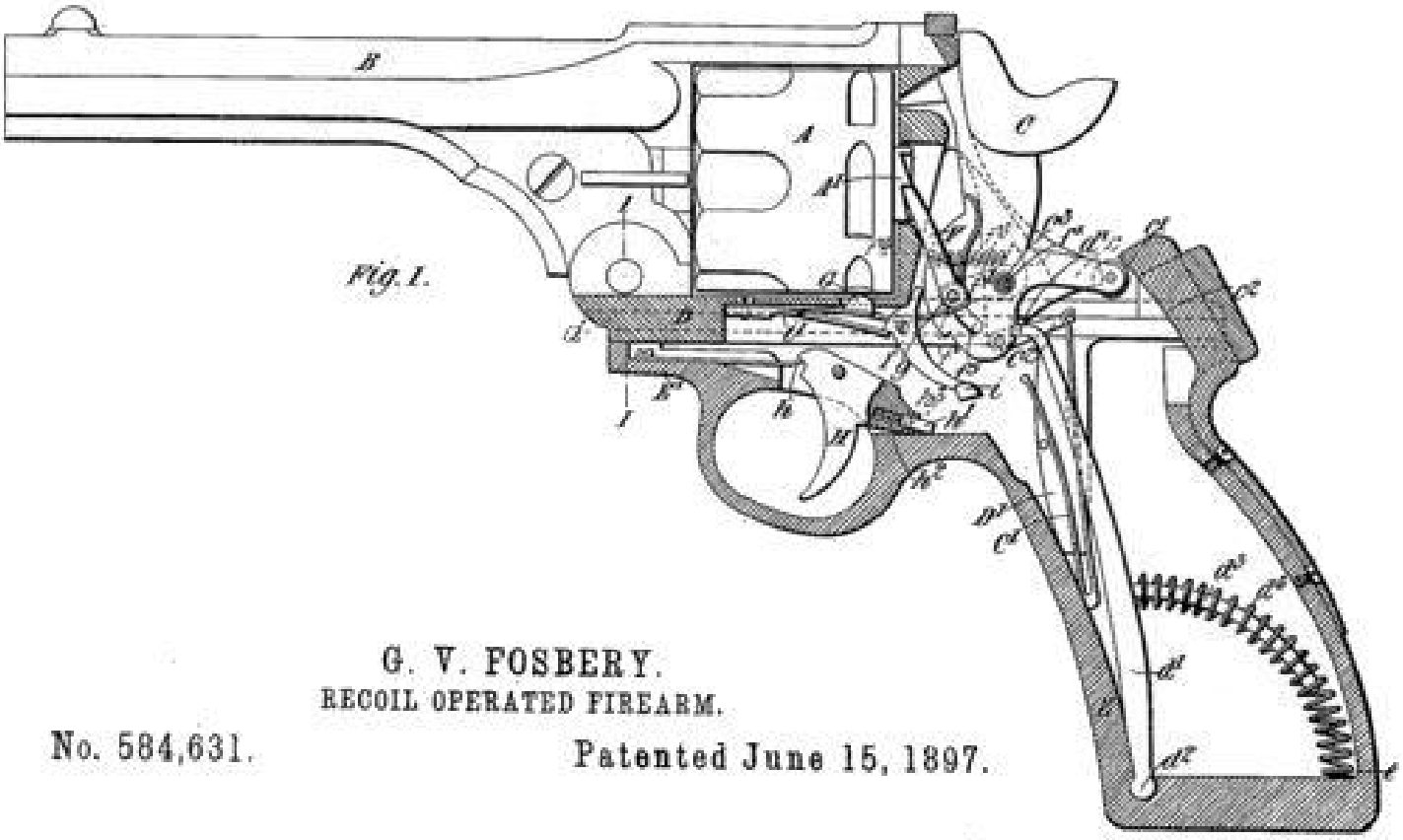

fig. 1.

G. V. FOSBERY.
RECOIL OPERATED FIREARM.
No. 584,631. Patented June 15, 1897.

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The Webley & Scott Semi Auto Pistols

Webley & Scott Ltd, began experiments with self-loading pistols during the earliest years of the 20th century. Their first attempt, based on design of the Hugh Gabbet-Fairfax and known as "Mars" pistol, proved to be a commercial failure, and in 1903 company began experiments with weapons, designed by its factory manager, Mr. Whiting. Early prototypes, known as Webley & Scott model 1904 pistols, were based on short-recoil operated action, designed by Whiting. Earliest prototypes fired standard .455 calibre rimmed revolver ammo, which later was converted to semi-rimmed pattern. In 1905, Whiting designed new pistol, based on simple blowback action and intended for relatively low-power ammunition. Pistols of this pattern were built in .32 calibre (.32 ACP / 7,65mm Browning) until 1940 in several minor modifications. Version of this pistol, produced in 1908, was adopted by British Metropolitan police, and similar pistols in this calibre also were adopted by other police forces across the British empire.
In 1909 Whiting designed an enlarged version of his basic blowback design, chambered for more powerful 9mm Browning Long (9x20SR) ammunition. This pistol differed from its smaller cousins by having an internal hammer and automatic grip safety, rather than exposed hammer and manual safety of the M1905 pattern. The year of 1910 saw introduction of another short-recoil operated pistol from Webley & Scott, also designed by Whiting. This gun retained same external outline of its predecessors, but was larger and had slide of the rectangular cross-section (all blowback-operated Webley pistols had slides with rounded tops). Chambered for .38 calibre High Velocity ammunition (which in fact was an American .38 ACP round), these pistols were manufactured in two patterns - with manual safety or with automated grip safety. In couple of years this model evolved into the biggest of all production Webley & Scott automatic pistols. First known as Model 1912, it fired proprietary .455 calibre ammunition. It was adopted by British Navy as the Webley & Scott self-loading pistol Mark I Navy, with production commencing in 1913. Version of this gun, fitted with adjustable sights, was known as Webley & Scott self-loading pistol Mark I Model 2. It was issued on limited basis to Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Air Corps during the WW1. Production of these large pistols was relatively limited, as after the war British military returned to more usual revolvers, and these military Webley & Scott self-loading pistols were declared obsolete. Despite this fact, smaller-calibre blowback operated Webley-Scott pistols were manufactured for domestic civilian markets until early 1920s, and for export markets and police use until 1940.

Webley & Scott semi automatic pistol models of 1905, 1907, 1908, .32 (7,65mm Browning)

These pistols featured simple blowback action, with short slide and exposed barrel. V shaped return spring under the right grip panel, linked to the slide through the rocking lever. Single-action trigger with exposed hammer and manual safety, located on the left side of the frame, above the grip panel. Single-stack detachable magazine with bottom magazine release. Fixed sights.

Webley & Scott semi automatic pistol, cal.32, model of 1905. Very early model with safety lever located next to the hammer. (www.worldguns.ru)

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Webley & Scott semi automatic pistol, cal.32, model of 1908. (www.worldguns.ru)

Webley & Scott .25 pocket pistol (www.worldguns.ru)

Webley & Scott semi automatic pistol models of 1906, .25 (6,35mm Browning)

These pistols featured simple blowback action, with short slide and exposed barrel. V shaped return spring under the right grip panel, linked to the slide through the rocking lever. Single-action trigger with exposed hammer and manual safety, located on the left side of the frame, above the grip panel. Single-stack detachable magazine with bottom magazine release. Fixed sights.

Webley & Scott semi automatic pistol model of 1909, 9mm Browning Long

These pistols featured simple blowback action, with short slide and exposed barrel. V shaped return spring under the right grip panel, linked to the slide through the rocking lever. Single-action trigger with exposed hammer and automated grip safety, located at the rear of the grip. Single-stack detachable magazine with bottom magazine release. Adjustable rear sights. lanyard ring at the base of the grip.

Webley & Scott 9mm (Browning Long) Semi Auto Pistol. (www.worldguns.ru)

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Webley & Scott semi automatic pistol models of 1909, .25 (6,35mm Browning) *(manufactured prior to 1919)*

Harrington Richards Semi Auto Pistol

These pistols featured simple blowback action, with short slide and exposed barrel. V shaped return spring under the right grip panel, linked to the slide through the rocking lever. Single-action trigger with internal (concealed inside the slide) hammer and manual safety, located on the left side of the frame, above the grip panel. Single-stack detachable magazine with bottom magazine release. Fixed sights.

Externally similar models also were built in USA by Harrington & Richardson in .25ACP and .32ACP calibres between 1912 and 1924. These H&R pistols differed internally from Webley pistols by having coil-type return spring located inside the slide, and also by being striker fired.

Webley & Scott semi automatic pistol model of 1910, .38 (.38 ACP)

Webley 1910 .38 Semi Auto Pistol with grip safety

These pistols featured short recoil operated action with "dropping barrel" locking. In this system, barrel has sets of inclined lugs at its sides, and additional locking lug on the top. Upon recoil, side lugs forced the barrel to drop down slightly, and this downward movement disconnected the top (locking) lug on the barrel from the respective cut, made in the top of the slide. Once the slide was fully unlocked, it was allowed to recoil freely and barrel was stopped. Upon return to the battery slide pushed the barrel forward. Side lugs also forced barrel to rise and thus lock into the slide. V-shaped return spring under the right grip panel, linked to the slide through the rocking lever. Single-action trigger with internal (concealed inside the slide) hammer and automated grip safety, located at the rear of the grip (on early production guns) or with manual safety above left grip panel (as made since 1913). Single stack detachable magazine with bottom magazine release. Drift-adjustable rear sights. lanyard ring at the base of the grip.

Webley & Scott 1910 .38 Semi Auto Pistol with manual safety

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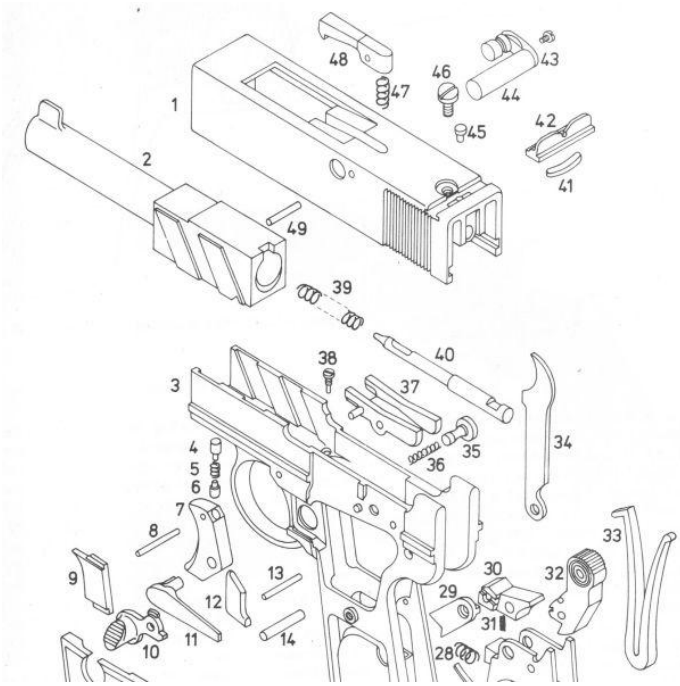
Webley & Scott semi automatic pistol model of 1912, 1913, Mark I Navy (Mk.I N), .455

Short recoil-operated action similar to that of the Model 1910. Single-action trigger with exposed hammer and automated grip safety, located at the rear of the grip. Single-stack detachable magazine with bottom magazine release. Fixed (Mk.I) or adjustable (Mk.I Mod.2) rear sights.



Top left: **Webley Semi Auto Pistol .455 Navy MkI N**

Above: **Webley Semi Auto Pistol .455 Commercial**

Left:: **Exploded diagram Webley .455 Auto**

Below: **Webley Semi Auto Pistol .455 Horse Artillery**

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	M1906 .25Cal	M1905 - 1908 .32 Cal	M1909 9mm	M1909 .38	M1912 .455
Type	Single Action semiautomatic	Single Action semiautomatic	Single Action semiautomatic	Single Action semiautomatic	Single Action semiautomatic
Calibre(s)	.25ACP / 6.35x16SR	.32 ACP / 7.65x17SR	9x20SR	.38ACP / 9x23SR	.455 / 11.43x23SR
Weight Unloaded	.75lb	1.279lb	2.2lb	2.2lb	2.5lb
Barrel Length	4½"	6"	8"	8"	8½"
Magazine Capacity	6	8	8	8	7
Historic Importance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Aesthetic Quality					
Technical Interest	✓	✓			✓
Particular Rarity					✓

	WG	MK IV	MK V	MK VI	Fosberry
Type	Break Top Revolver	Break Top Revolver	Break Top Revolver	Break Top Revolver	Semi Auto Revolver
Calibre(s)	.455 (MK 1)	.455 (MK 1, 2, 3), .22 LR, .38/200 (MK 1, 2)	.455	.455	.455 (MK 2), .38 ACP, .22 LR
Weight Unloaded	2.1 lb	2.1 lb	2.2 lb	2.4 lb	2.73 lb
Barrel Length	5", 7½"	3", 4", 5", 6"	5"	4", 6"	4", 6", 7.½"
Magazine Capacity	6	6	6	6	6 (.455) 8 (.38 ACP)
Historic Importance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Aesthetic Quality					
Technical Interest	✓	✓			✓
Particular Rarity	✓				✓

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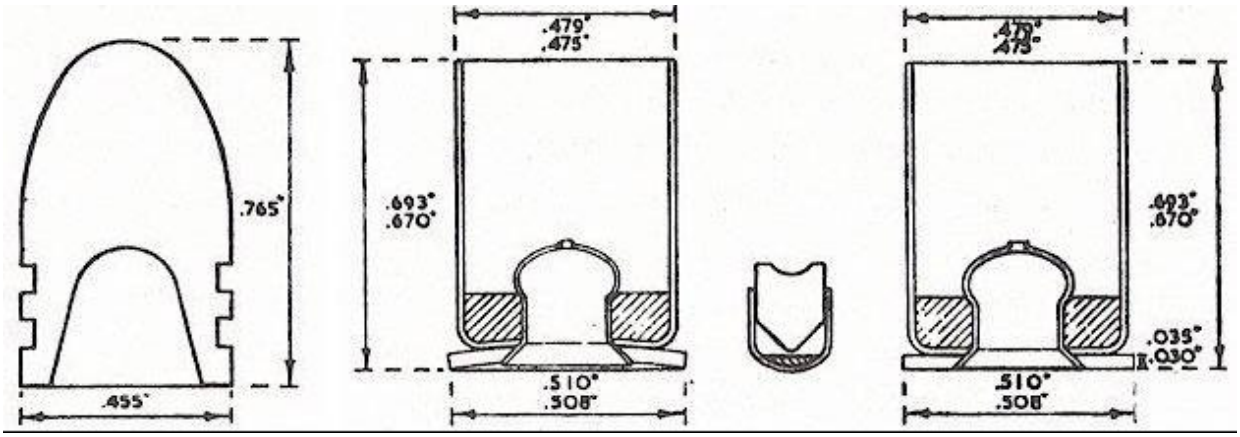
The Evolution of the .455 and .38/200 Cartridge

The early English regulation centrefire revolvers

In 1868, the British armed forced switched to breech-loading revolvers by converting their percussion revolvers and buying new breechloaders. The Colt .36 was phased out of service, and many .45 calibre Beaumont Adams revolvers were adapted to a boxer-type metallic self-contained cartridge with a solid-drawn shell riveted to a base disc of iron (Mark I) or brass (Mark II). The conversion carried out in accordance with John Adams' British Patent of 1867 was approved 26th November, 1868 and became the Mark I.

Adams MK1 .450 (separate iron base disk) 1868 - MK2 (separate brass base disk) 1877



Adams MK1 .450 (separate iron base disk) - MK2 (separate brass base disk)

Left: **Adams MK3 .450 (one piece cartridge)**

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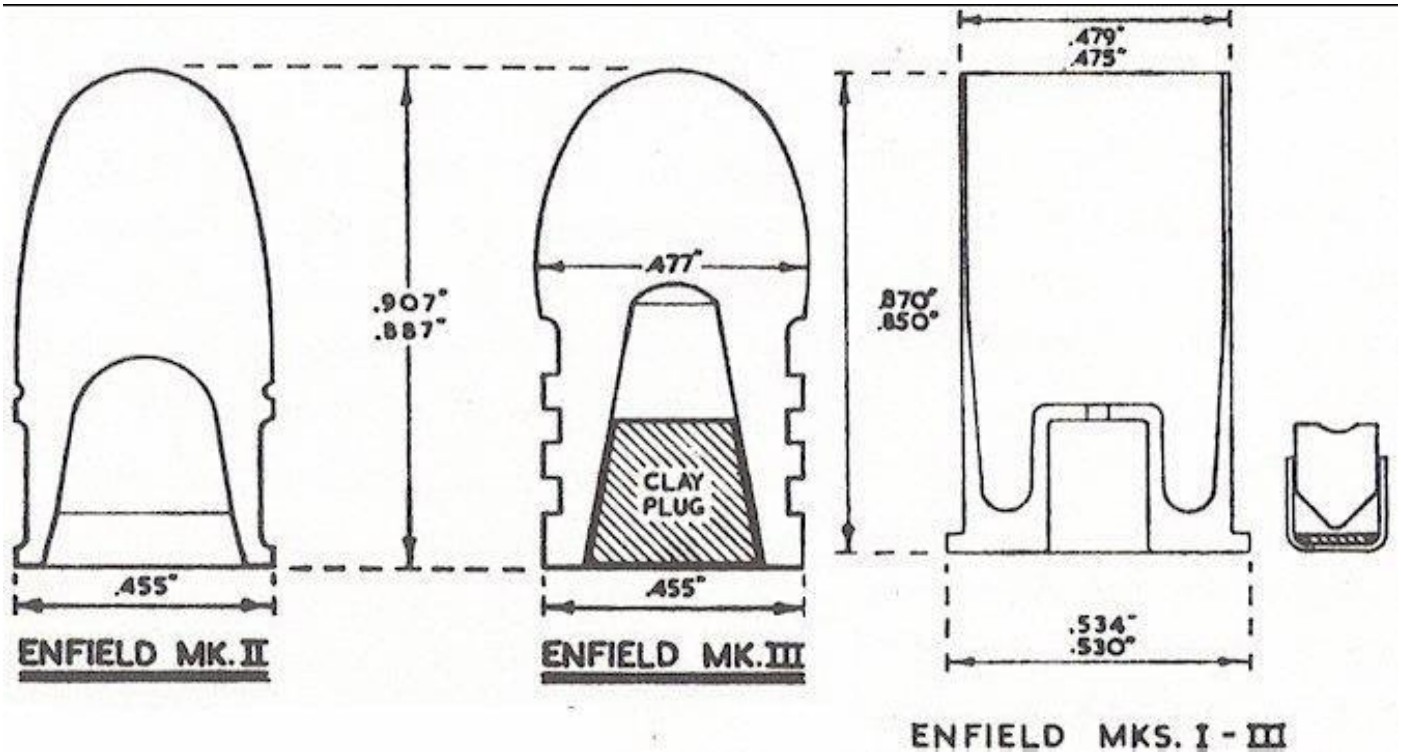
Lack of Killing Power

The .450 Adams cartridge was poorly regarded because of its lack of killing power. So the Revolver Enfield, Mark I, .476 calibre was developed and accepted as a service weapon on 10 August of 1880. This formidable handgun was designed as a straight replacement of the .450 Adams.



Left:: **Mark II-type - centre and right: Mark III with exposed grease-groove**

The Enfield Mark 1 cartridge (approved in 1880) had a bullet diameter of .476 that weighed 265 grains and had a case length of 0.855". Later the same year a new cartridge, the Enfield Mark II, was approved which used the same case length, but with a 265 grain bullet of .455 diameter. In 1881, was approved a third cartridge, the Mark III, which used the same case but the bullet reverted to the .476 calibre of the Mark I with the same weight, 265 grains. In the Mark II the exposed portion of the bullet was smooth whereas the Mark III had one with a wide exposed grease groove.

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All had not gone smoothly for the Enfield revolver. Since its design was a hodgepodge of various features there were claims of pattern infringement and demands for royalty fees. On top of this there were further field reports that the Enfield revolver was, to put it bluntly, a great paperweight, but didn't really cut it as a sidearm. In 1887, after due consideration, the Webley Mark I revolver in .455 calibre was introduced into service.
This is where the some confusion starts to appear as there were 6 Marks/Models of Webley pistol approved for service and 6 Marks of .455 ammunition. There is no correlation between the Mark number of the Webley revolver and the Mark number of the ammunition (see chart below). The .455 cartridge was a service revolver cartridge, featuring a rimmed cartridge firing a .45 bullet at the relatively low velocity of 650 ft/s (190 m/s). The result was a cartridge and handgun combination with relatively mild recoil, but with good penetration and excellent stopping power. It was rated superior to the .45 Colt in stopping power in the disputed United States Thompson-LaGarde Tests of 1904 that resulted in the adoption by the U.S. of the .45 ACP cartridge.

Revolvers	Cartridges
Webley Mark I 1889	.455 Webley Mark I 1891 (Cordite 1894)
Webley Mark II 1894	.455 Webley Mark II 1897 (reintroduced 1900)
Webley Mark III 1897	.455 Webley Mark III 1898
Webley Mark IV 1899	.455 Webley Mark IV 1912
Webley Mark V 1913	.455 Webley Mark V 1914
Webley Mark VI 1915	.455 Webley Mark VI 1939

The Mark I cartridge introduced in 1891 for the Webley revolver retained the .855 ins case of the Enfield .476 series and had a conical lead bullet of 265 grains. Officially, the round was also intended for the Enfield Revolver as the title was "Cartridge SA Ball, Pistol, Webley Mark I (Also Enfield)". Notice the gap between the appearance of the .455 Webley revolver (1887) and the appearance of the first official .455 Webley cartridge (1891). Since the old Enfield Mark III (.476) cartridge wouldn't chamber in Webley revolvers, they must have used the even older .450 Adams cartridges or not actually issued the .455 Webley revolver until ammo was available.

.455 Mark I cartridge blackpowder (left) and cordite loaded (right). Note the cannelure on the cordite loaded cartridge. With the switch to smokeless powder (i.e.: cordite), subsequent marks of .455 ammunition used a shorter case.

The Mark II .455 cartridge came out in 1897 with a case length of .760 ins, a 265 grain conical lead bullet and was powered by cordite.

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Mark III .455 cartridge, the "Manstopper"

It was about this time that the British Government became fixated with "stopping power" (the .303 Mk III - "Dum Dum" was approved for service in 1897 and it wasn't until the 1899 Hague Convention that such ammunition was considered, unsporting.) This trend extended to the .455 revolver ammunition and, as a result, the Mark III .455 cartridge appeared in 1898. This has the same .760 ins case but the bullet had a deep nose cavity which reduced its weight to around 220 grains – referred to as the "Manstopper" bullet. Cordite was again the propellant of choice. Some Mark III cases were later loaded with Mark II (conical lead) bullets.

Mark III .455 cartridge, the "Manstopper"

.455 Mark IV cartridge

As production of the Mark III was overtaken by international events and sentiments, it was removed from service in 1900 and the Mark II cartridge was re-instated as a stop-gap measure.
Some lengthy experimentation then took place to come up with a more effective bullet and it wasn't until 12 years later (1912) that the .455 Mark IV cartridge emerged. This used the same case as the previous marks, with a cordite charge and the bullet was 220 grains but with a completely flat nose – basically a full wadcutter in today's terms. It should be noted that the collector may encounter .455 cartridges which have a bullet nose that is slightly rounded rather than completely flat. These are not Mark IV rounds but commercial target rounds sometimes loaded on surplus military cases.

.455 Mark IV cartridge

The same fear that had resulted in the Mark III "Manstopper" being removed from service resurfaced with the "wadcutter" Mark IV. As a result, the Mark II, reintroduced when the Mark III was withdrawn, remained the service cartridge until the introduction of the Mark VI.

Despite concerns about the Mark IV, a Mark V .455 cartridge was introduced in 1914. This had the

exact same bullet profile as the Mark IV but used a harder lead alloy. It was otherwise identical in construction to the Mark IV and the general consensus amongst military experts is that it was used solely for target practice. It was a very short-lived cartridge and remains quite rare. While head-stamps indicating a Mark V case are not uncommon, these are normally found loaded with Mark II bullets.

The Short-lived Mark 5 .455 Webley Cartridge

.455 MK 6

While the British Government introduced the .380 service revolver and cartridge in 1930, the .455 Webley revolvers were still out there and needed ammunition. The use of solid lead bullets was becoming socially unacceptable so the last mark of .455 ammunition, the Mark VI, appeared in 1939. Again it used the same case as Marks II through V, a jacketed bullet of 265 grain and either cordite or nitro-cellulose propellant. Head-stamps on British-made Mark VI cartridge may have a "z" which indicates nitrocellulose rather than cordite as the propellant.

In England, the .455 revolver military cartridges were made at:

- The Royal Laboratory - Woolwich Arsenal,
- Birmingham Small Arms & Metal Company,
- Eley Brothers,
- Kynoch Limited,
- Grenfell & Accles.

In addition, the military cartridges were made in a number of countries – notably those that were part of the British Empire at the time.

- In Australia, the Mark II .455 cartridge was loaded at Small Arms Ammunition Factory (SAAF) Footscay, and the Mark VI was loaded at SAAF Rocklea.
- In Canada, Dominion Arsenals loaded the Mark II and Dominion Cartridge Company (C-I-L) loaded the Mark VI. There was also a special loading of the Mark I for the North West Mounted

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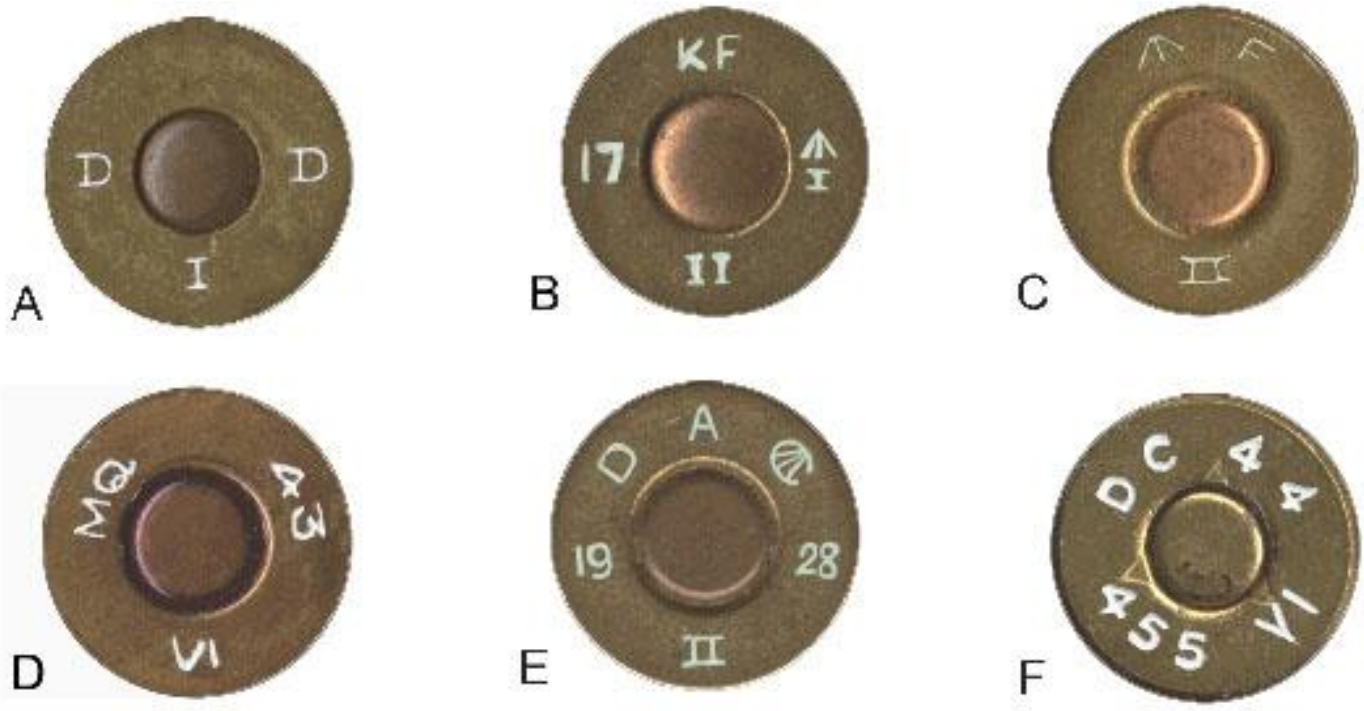
Police by the Dominion Cartridge Company with a head-stamp of D.C.Co 45 ENFIELD.

- India was one of the few places that loaded the Mark I .455 at both Kirkee and Dum Dum Arsenals. These arsenals also loaded the Mark II and IV.



British Colonial Military head-stamps:
(a) Dum Dum Factory, India. (b) Kirkee Factory, India. (c) SAAF, Footscray, Australia. (d) Government Ammunition Factory No. 5, Rocklea, Australia. (e) Dominion Arsenal, Canada. (f) Dominion Cartridge Company, Canada

In addition to the military production of the .455 cartridges, many ammunition manufacturers around the world made the .455 cartridge to be fired in commercially available or military surplus revolvers in that calibre. There is not room here to catalogue these variations. Suffice to say that the cartridge was made commercially in Argentina (long case version), Canada (short and long case), France (short case), Germany (short case), Italy (short case), Philippines (short case), United Kingdom (short and long case), USA (short and long case versions), and probably others.

In the USA, the .455 was made by Winchester, UMC and Remington for commercial use. Recently, Hornady have added the .455 (short case) to their product line. While UMC and Remington only made the short case version,

.450 Colt head-stamp on .455 Cartridge.

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Webley & Scott

Winchester made the .455 in both lengths and one of these is the source of some confusion. It is a short-case version head-stamped W.R.A.Co. .450 COLT. According to Dan Shuey in his WRACo Head-stamped Cartridges and their Variations, only one lot was loaded for the 1914 Bisley match.

.455 Webley & Scott Auto Cartridge

The .455 Webley & Scott Auto is a semi-rimmed cartridge initially intended for the Webley & Scott Self Loading Pistol Mark I. The cartridge first appeared in 1904 with a 0.885 ins case and very thin rim. A second version, thought to be from around 1910, has the same thin rim but the case is about .927 ins long. This was the later production case length. The official production round, the Mark I was approved in 1913 and was produced up to the middle of World War Two. It had what we would consider a normal rim thickness. All versions were semi-rimmed and, except for the 1904 version, all had the typical jacketed blunt projectile.

.455 Automatic Cartridges - Left to right: 1904, "1910", and true production Mark I.

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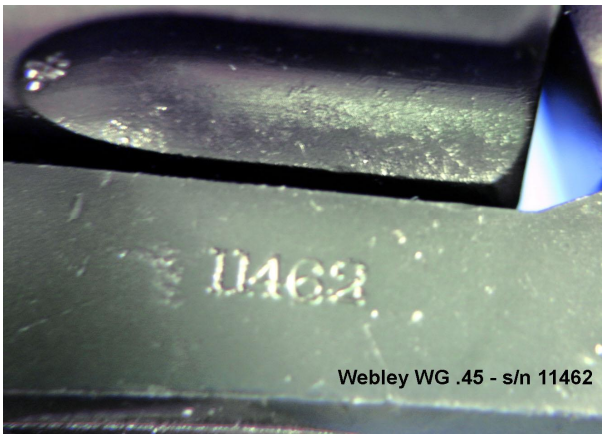
Examples Held under Section 7.3

Webley & Scott .455 cal. WG



Model	WG Army		Serial Number	11462
Barrel Length	6”		Date of Manufacture	1885 -1912
Calibre	.455			
Manufacturer	Webley			

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Webley & Scott MKV Commercial .455 cal Break-Top Revolver

Model	MKV		Serial Number	137540
Barrel Length	4”		Date of Manufacture	
Calibre	.455			
Manufacturer	Webley		Re-finished	

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Webley & Scott Service Revolver MK VI - Cal .455

Webley Mk VI - 6" - cal .455 - sn 160655 (1915)


Webley Mk VI - 6" - cal .455 - sn 160655 (1915)

Model	MK VI		Date of Manufacture	1915
Barrel Length	6"		Weight Unloaded	38.83 ounces
Calibre	.455		Length	11.26 "
Manufacturer	Webley		Serial Number	160655

Historic & Heritage Handguns 2013
Webley & Scott

Webley MKVI Service Revolver .455 cal.

Model	MK VI		Date of Manufacture	1915
Barrel Length	6"		Weight Unloaded	38.83 ounces
Calibre	.455		Length	11.26 "
Manufacturer	Webley		Serial Number	169097

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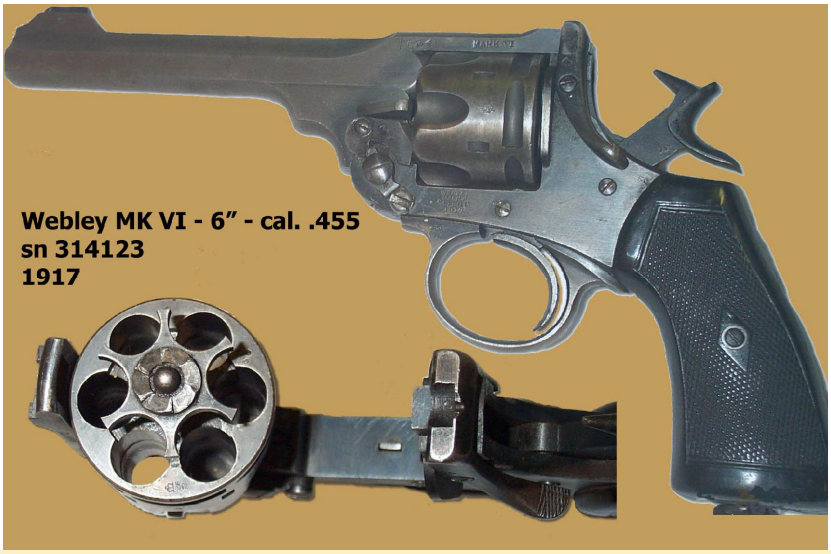
Webley & Scott

Webley MKVI Service Revolver .455 cal.

Model	MK VI		Date of Manufacture	1915
Barrel Length	6"		Weight Unloaded	38.83 ounces
Calibre	.455		Length	11.26 "
Manufacturer	Webley		Serial Number	331523

Historic & Heritage Handguns 2013
Webley & Scott



Webley MKVI Service Revolver .455 cal.

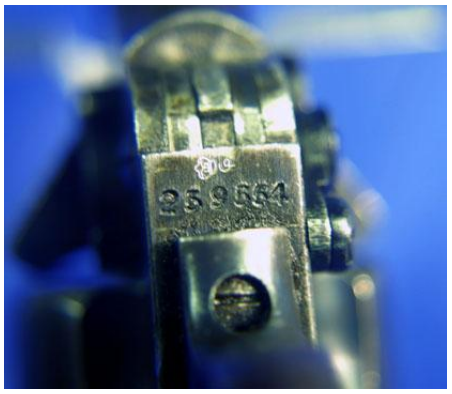
Webley No.1 MK1 Verey Pistol (1917). The stock from this flare gun could be used for the MKVI Revolver

Several accessories were developed for the Mk VI including a bayonet, speed-loader device

The stock was never made as a direct accessory for the MKVI but it was found that with just a few minor adjustments with a small file the stock designed for the Webley Signalling pistol would fit, allowing for a customised carbine or trench raiding version.

Model	MK VI		Date of Manufacture	1917
Barrel Length	6"		Weight Unloaded	38.83 ounces
Calibre	.455		Length	11.26 "
Manufacturer	Webley		Serial Number	314123

Historic & Heritage Handguns 2013
Webley & Scott



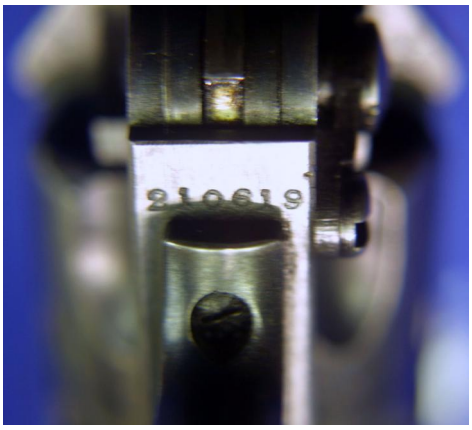
Webley & Scott MKVI Service Revolver.

239554 was sold after the First World War to the Union of South Africa, refinished by Webley & Scott and remarked with the cancelation stamps and the large U of the SA Union

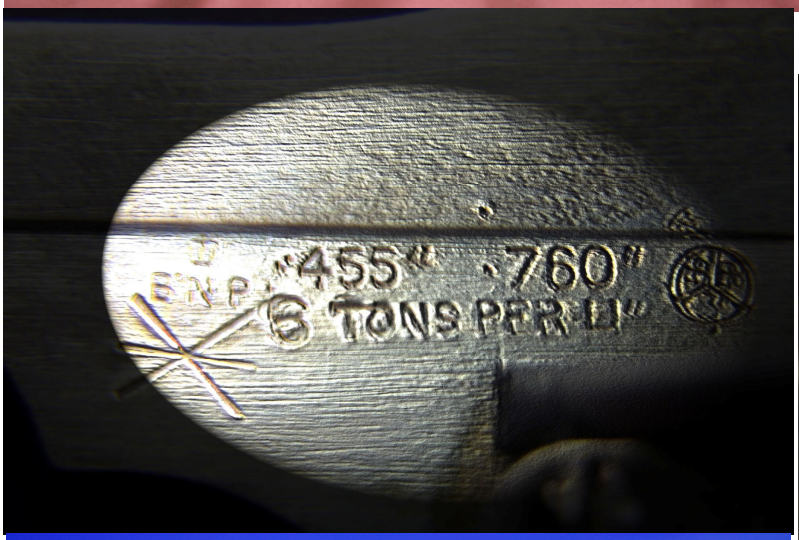
Webley MKVI Service Revolver .455 cal.

Model	MK VI		Date of Manufacture	1917
Barrel Length	6”		Weight Unloaded	38.83 ounces
Calibre	.455		Length	11.26 “
Manufacturer	Webley & Scott		Serial Number	239554

Historic & Heritage Handguns 2013
Webley & Scott



Webley MKVI Service Revolver .455 cal.



Model	MK VI		Date of Manufacture	1915
Barrel Length	6”		Weight Unloaded	38.83 ounces
Calibre	.455		Length	11.26 “
Manufacturer	Webley		Serial Number	210619

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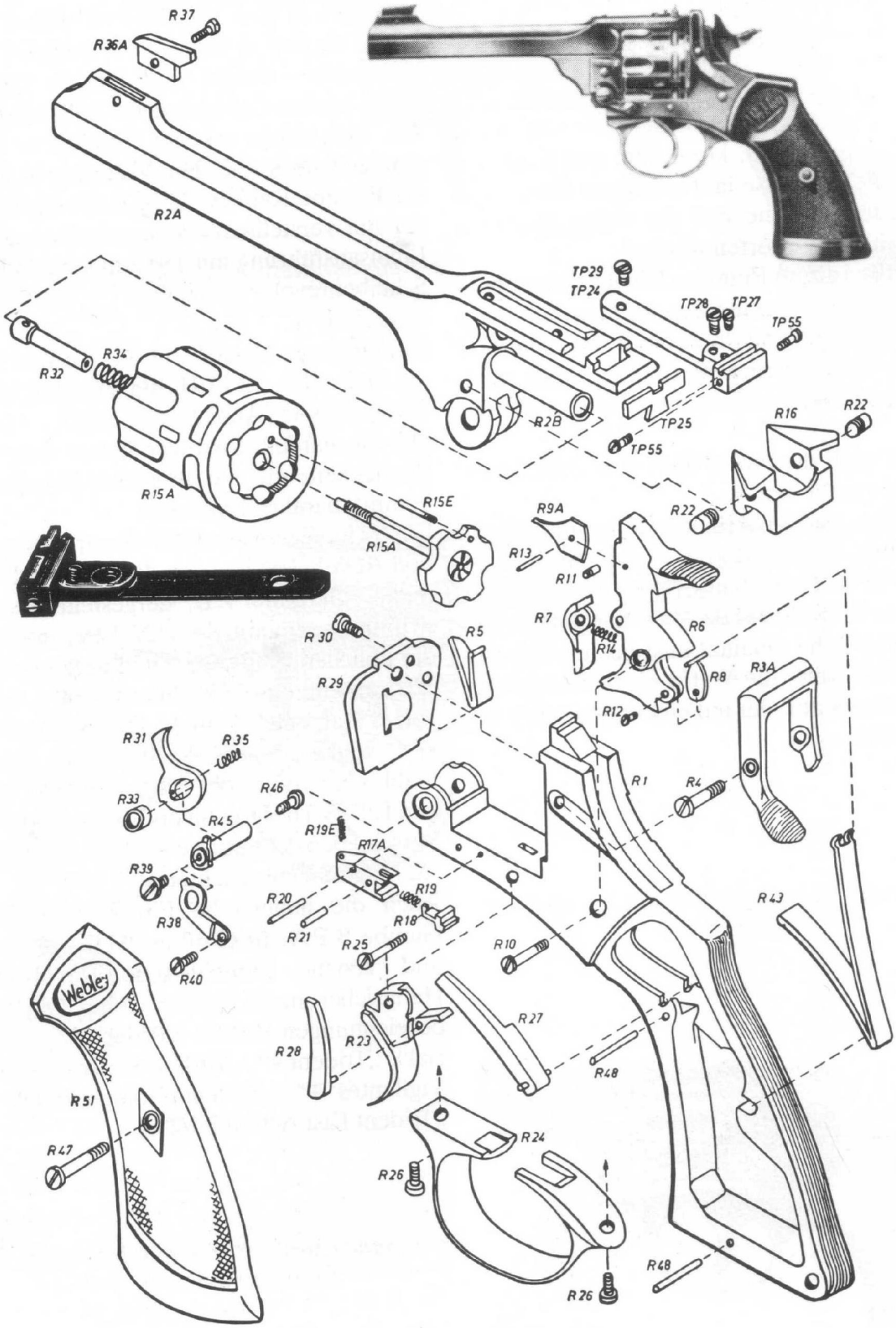

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Webley & Scott Semi Auto Pistol .32 Cal sn 103056 with right side grip removed to show unique "V" spring

Webley & Scott .32 acp Semi-Automatic Pistol

Model	Semi Auto Pistol		Date of Manufacture	1906
Barrel Length	4"		Weight Unloaded	1.279lb
Calibre	.32 ACP		Length	
Manufacturer	Webley & Scott		Serial Number	103056

Historic & Heritage Handguns 2013
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Webley & Scott .32 acp Semi-Automatic Pistol

Model	Semi Auto Pistol		Date of Manufacture	1906
Barrel Length	4”		Weight Unloaded	1.279lb
Calibre	.32 ACP		Length	
Manufacturer	Webley & Scott		Serial Number	7334