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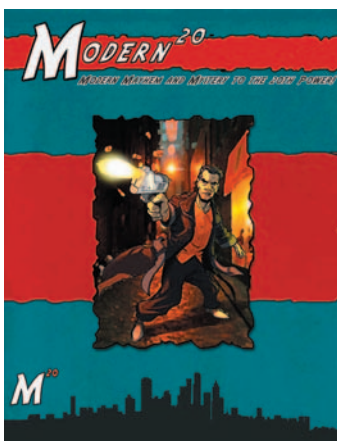
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MODERN²⁰

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Modern
Mayhem and
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20th Power!



MODERN²⁰: SMALL ARMS OF WWII

BY CHARLES RICE

WWII saw a great explosion in firearms technology. The demands of the war placed tremendous challenges before weapons designers, to increase rate of fire, firepower and reliability. Even weapons materials were rethought as countries stretched their production capacities to the limit. For players participating in a campaign set during the era of WWII, the following new weapons are provided for use in *Modern²⁰* campaigns.

Bazooka: Named after a musical instrument it resembled to soldiers, the Bazooka was first demonstrated to American military forces by its inventor, famed rocket scientist Dr. Robert H. Goddard at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds during the First World War. As fate would have it, WWI ended 5 days after this test and the weapon was shelved for a time. With war looming on the horizon work began again and the weapon became one of the most effective anti-tank weapons of WWII and remains in use to the present day (despite the popularity of disposable rockets).

Boys anti-tank rifle: Although designed as an anti-armor weapon, the Boys was rarely used in that capacity as armored vehicles became more and more formidable throughout the war. However it was sometimes used in that capacity (usually when nothing else was available) and was an excellent weapon for attacking bunkers, fortified positions, less heavily

armored vehicles (such as trucks) and of course individual soldiers. These weapons saw service with British, American, Australian, Canadian and Finnish forces. The German military captured some of these weapons after the British evacuation at Dunkirk and these were put into service as well.

The Boys ignores the first 3 Hardness of an object, vehicle or building struck.

Bren Gun: Adopted in 1935, Brno-Enfield, commonly referred to as the "Bren" was the standard British and Commonwealth light machinegun through the Second World War. A modified Czech design, the British version was modified to fire the standard .303 rifle round, not the 7.62mm Mauser round fired by its predecessor. The weapon was typically carried by a two-man crew, a gunner (who carried the weapon) and



TABLE 1: ARMS OF WORLD WAR II

Handguns	Strength Min.	Damage (Ballistic)	Range	ROF	Magazine	Cost	Res.
Browning Hi-Power (9mm) ¹	11	2d4+4	30 ft.	S	14 box	13 (14 w/ stock)	Lic (+1)
Enfield Revolver (.38/200)	10	2d4+2	20 ft.	S	6 cyl.	12	Lic (+1)
Koishikawa Type 26 (9mm)	10	2d4+2	20 ft.	S	6 cyl.	13	Lic (+1)
Luger (9mm) ²	11	2d4+4	30 ft.	S	8 box	20	Lic (+1)
M-1911A1 (.45 ACP)	13	2d6+3	30 ft.	S	8 box	15	Lic (+1)
Nagant M-1895 (7.62x25mm)	14	2d6+6	30 ft.	S	7 cyl.	13	Lic (+1)
Nambu Type 14 (8mm)	10	2d4+2	20 ft.	S	8 box	12	Lic (+1)
Nambu Type 94 (8mm)	9	2d4+2	20 ft.	S	6 box	11	Lic (+1)
Pistole 35(p) (9mm) ³	14	2d6+6	30 ft.	S	8 box	21	Lic (+1)
Sauer 38H (.32 ACP)	11	2d4+4	20 ft.	S	8 box	13	Lic (+1)
S&W M10 (.38/200)	10	2d4+2	20 ft.	S	6 cyl.	12	Lic (+1)
TT-33 (7.62x25mm)	12	2d6+3	30 ft.	S	8 box	14	Lic (+1)
Walther P-38 (9mm)	11	2d4+4	30 ft.	S	8 box	13	Lic (+1)
Walther PP (.32 ACP)	11	2d4+4	20 ft.	S	9 box	13	Lic (+1)
Walther PPK (.32 ACP)	10	2d4+2	20 ft.	S	8 box	14	Lic (+1)
Webley Mk. VI (.455)	14	2d6+6	30 ft.	S	6 cyl.	14	Lic (+1)

¹ The Browning Hi-Power can be fitted with a detachable shoulder stock, increasing its range modifier to 40 ft. and increasing its size to medium.

² The Luger is an extremely well made weapon. Consider these weapons to be masterwork.

³ The Pistole 35(p) is a masterwork weapon.

a reloader who carried ammunition and barrels (the barrel of the Bren Gun became so heated it needed to be periodically swapped out).

Browning Hi-Power: This weapon was used both by the Allies and the Germans in WWII and was designed by legendary gunsmith John Browning, inventor of the M-1911 Colt .45. Manufactured in Belgium, this weapon first saw service with the Belgium military, though it was also manufactured and carried by Canadian, British and American forces. Following German occupation of Belgium in WWII, the German Army also began to carry these weapons.

Browning M2HB Heavy Machinegun: One of the finest heavy machineguns ever designed, the M2HB has been in continuous use by armed forces around the world from its introduction in 1920 through to the present day. Because of its weight it is usually vehicle mounted.

Browning M-1917A1 Heavy Machinegun: Used in WWI, WWII and the Korean War, this heavy, water-cooled machinegun was usually vehicle mounted because of its weight. Powerful and extremely reliable, the M-1917A1 was used by American forces throughout WWII and also by the British through lend-lease.

Browning M-1919 Medium Machinegun: These reliable and powerful medium machineguns were operated throughout WWII by two-man teams, a gunner who fired and carried the weapon and a reloader who carried the tripod and ammunition. These weapons were also mounted on vehicles, especially trucks, jeeps and ships.

DP-28 Light Machinegun: This Soviet machinegun was cheap and easy to make. It consisted of no more than 80 parts and could be assembled by untrained laborers. The DP-28 also possessed excellent stopping power and was extremely reliable. In fact a (possibly) ironic anecdote about the DP-28 was that it actually

TABLE 1: ARMS OF WORLD WAR II (CONTINUED....)

Longarms	Strength Min.	Damage (Ballistic)	Range	ROF	Magazine	Cost	Res.
Bren Gun (.303 light machinegun)	14	2d8+8	70 ft.	A	30 box or 100 drum	21	Mil (+3)
Browning M-1919 Medium Machinegun (.30-06)	15	2d10+5	80 ft.	A	250 belt (linked)	20	Mil (+3)
DP-28 Light Machinegun (7.62x 54mmR)	14	2d8+8	60 ft.	A	47 drum	18	Mil (+3)
Gewehr 43 (8mm)	11	2d8+4	60 ft.	S	10 box	18	Mil (+3)
Lewis Gun (.303 light machinegun)	12	2d6+3	60 ft.	A	47 or 97 drum	19	Mil (+3)
M-1 Carbine (.30 Carbine)	12	2d6+3	50 ft.	S	15 box	20	Mil (+3)
M-1 Garand (.30-06)	13	2d6+6	70 ft.	S	8 box	20	Mil (+3)
M-1D Sniper Rifle (.30-06) ⁴	13	2d6+6	70 ft. ⁵	S	8 box	24	Mil (+3)
M-2 Carbine (.30 Carbine)	12	2d6+3	50 ft.	S, A	30 box	22	Mil (+3)
M-3 Carbine (.30 Carbine)	13	2d6+3	50 ft.	S	15 box	25	Mil (+3)
M-1903 (.30-06)	13	2d6+6	60 ft.	Single	5 int.	17	Mil (+3)
M-1903A4 (.30-06) ⁶	13	2d6+6	60 ft.	Single	5 int.	21	Mil (+3)
M-1918 BAR (.30-06)	13	2d8+8	60 ft.	A	20 box	22	Mil (+3)
MG 34 (8mm medium machinegun)	15	2d10+5	80 ft.	A	50 drum, 75 drum, 50 belt (linked), 200 belt (linked)	23	Mil (+3)
MP-40 (9mm)	12	2d6+3	40 ft.	S, A	32 box	18	Mil (+3)
Mauser Karabiner 98K (8 mm)	13	2d6+6	70 ft.	Single	5 int.	16	Mil (+3)
Mosin-Nagant rifle M-1891/30 (7.62x 54mmR)	13	2d6+6	80 ft.	Single	5 int.	15	Mil (+3)
Mosin-Nagant rifle M-1891/30 Sniper Variant (7.62x 54mmR) ⁷	13	2d6+6	80 ft. ⁸	Single	5 int.	19	Mil (+3)
Owen Gun SMG (9mm)	12	2d6+3	30 ft.	S, A	32 box	17	Res (+2)
PPD-40 SMG (7.62x 25mm) ⁹	12	2d6+3	40 ft.	S, A	20 box, 71 drum	22	Res (+2)
PPSh-41 SMG (7.62x 25 mm)	12	2d6+3	30 ft.	S, A	35 box, 71 drum	16	Res (+2)
SVT-40 Rifle (7.62x 54mmR)	13	2d6+6	60 ft.	S	10 box	18	Res (+2)
SMLE Mk. III (.303)	12	2d6+3	60 ft.	Single	10 int.	15	Res (+2)
Sten SMG (9mm)	12	2d6+3	30 ft.	A	32 box	16	Res (+2)
Sturmgewehr (8 mm)	12	2d8+4	50 ft.	S, A	30 box	19	Mil (+3)

⁴ The M-1D is a masterwork weapon.

⁵ The M-1D comes fitted with a scope which increases range by 1.5 if an attack action is used to sight in before attacking.

⁶ The M-1903A4 is a masterwork weapon.

⁷ The Mosin-Nagant sniper variant is a masterwork weapon.

⁸ The Mosin-Nagant sniper variant comes fitted with a scope which increases range by 1.5 if an attack action is used to sight in before attacking.

⁹ The PPD-40 is a masterwork weapon.

TABLE 1: ARMS OF WORLD WAR II (CONTINUED...)

Thompson M1A1 SMG (.45 ACP)	13	2d8+8	30 ft.	S, A	30 box	18	Res (+2)
Thompson M-3A1 "Grease Gun" (.45 ACP)	13	2d8+8	30 ft.	A	30 box	17	Mil (+3)
Thompson M-1928 SMG (.45 ACP)	13	2d8+8	40 ft.	S, A	20 box or 50 or 100 drum	20	Res (+2)
Type 38 Carbine (6.5mm)	11	2d4+4	40 ft.	Single	5 int.	15	Res (+2)
Type 11 light machinegun (6.5mm)	12	2d6+3	60 ft.	A	30 drum	18	Mil (+3)
Type 38 Rifle (6.5mm)	11	2d4+4	60 ft.	Single	5 int.	16	Res (+2)
Type 92 Heavy Machinegun (7.7mm)	15	2d10+5	80 ft. ¹¹	A	30 drum (able to be linked)	23	Mil (+3)
Type 97 Sniper Rifle (6.5mm) ¹⁰	11	2d4+4	60 ft.	Single	5 int.	22	Mil (+3)
Type 99 Light Machinegun (7.7 mm)	13	2d8+8	80 ft.	A	30 drum	24	Mil (+3)
Type 99 Rifle (7.7mm)	12	2d6+3	70 ft.	Single	5 int.	17	Res (+2)
Type 100 (8mm SMG)	12	2d6+3	30 ft.	S, A	30 box	17	Mil (+3)
Vickers Gun (.303 medium machinegun)	15	2d10+5	80 ft.	A	250 belt (linked)	22	Mil (+3)
Heavy Weapons	Strength Min.	Damage (Ballistic)	Range	ROF	Magazine	Cost	Res.
Bazooka (rocket launcher)	14	5d6	150 ft.	Single	1 int.	25	Mil (+3)
Boys anti-tank rifle (rocket launcher)	14	4d6	100 ft.	Single	5 box	24	Mil (+3)
Browning M2HB Heavy Machinegun (.50)	22	2d12+12	110 ft.	A	250 belt (linked)	25	Mil (+3)
Browning M-1917A1 Heavy Machinegun (.30-06)	21	2d12+6	100 ft.	A	250 belt (linked)	22	Mil (+3)
DShK 38 Heavy Machinegun (12.7 mm)	21	2d12+6	120 ft.	A	50 belt (linked)	23	Mil (+3)
MG 42 Heavy Machinegun (8 mm) ¹²	22	2d12+12	90 ft.	A	50 belt or 250 belt (both linked)	24	Mil (+3)
PTRD 41 (rocket launcher)	14	4d6	90 ft.	Single	1 int.	22	Mil (+3)
Panzerfaust (rocket launcher)	15	5d6	60 ft.	1	1 int.	17	Mil (+3)
PIAT (rocket launcher)	15	6d6	50 ft.	1	1 int.	23	Mil (+3)

¹⁰ The Type 97 is a masterwork weapon.

¹¹ All Type 97 Sniper Rifles come fitted with a scope which increases range by 1.5 if an attack action is used to sight in before attacking.

¹² The MG 42 is a masterwork weapon.

fired *better* if some sand was thrown in the firing mechanism. While this is likely not true, the weapon was incredibly sturdy and reliable.

DShK 38 Heavy Machinegun: An enormous weapon designed for anti-aircraft fire, the DShK was also

adapted by the Red Army as a heavy machinegun, though its enormous size caused it some difficulty in that role, since moving the weapon was a time consuming process. The DShK was very often mounted on vehicles, where its weight was less of a disadvantage.

Enfield Revolver: Adopted for military use in 1932, the Enfield revolver saw use with British and Commonwealth forces throughout World War II. Since it was cheap, easily concealed and relatively effective it was also issued in great numbers to the French Resistance, who called it the "Enfield Commando".

Gewehr 43: As the war progressed, it became clear to Germany that a semi-automatic rifle was needed to replace the bolt-action rifles commonly issued to German soldiers at the start of the war. Especially when faced with Russian semi-automatic rifles and SMGs, a weapon with a faster rate of fire was needed. Production of the Gewehr suffered numerous problems and these weapons were rare until quite late in the war (in 1944 these weapons become somewhat common and are not common among German soldiers until 1945).

Koishikawa Type 26: A 9mm Japanese revolver that saw service in the Russo-Japanese War and WWII. Although originally designed as a cavalry sidearm, the Type 26 saw extensive action in WWII because weapons of all types were in short supply.

Lewis Gun: A revolutionary weapon when it was first introduced in the First World War, the Lewis light machinegun continued to see extensive use in WWII because it was readily available and cheaply manufactured (though the vast majority of these weapons used in the war were holdovers from WWI). The Lewis required a two-man crew, a gunner who carried the weapon and a reloader who carried ammunition. During WWII this weapon was rarely carried, being seen as obsolete as a squad automatic weapon. It was frequently mounted on vehicles for defensive purposes however.

Luger: The Parabellum-Pistole P08, far better known by the name of its designer, Luger, was the official German sidearm of the First World War. Despite being incredibly well made (the service life of a Luger is over 100 years with proper maintenance) these pistols were phased out for the Walther P-38 in WWII because of the cost and time required to manufacture them. Many officers who can afford one of these legendary pistols (or who inherited one from a military relative) carry these.

M-1 Carbine: The M-1 Carbine was constructed for soldiers who needed something in between the standard M-1 and the many SMGs used by American forces during the war. The M-1 was too large and bulky for soldiers where weight and space was at a premium, especially paratroopers but also soldiers forced to carry other equipment such as medics and engineers. On the other hand, most SMGs did not have sufficient range for military encounters during the war outside of an urban environment. The solution to these problems was the M-1 Carbine, a modified M-1 with a folding metal stock a larger 15-round box clip.

M-1 Garand: The first semi-automatic service rifle issued to any army in the world, the M-1 was the standard service weapon of the United States infantry from 1936 to 1957. Although the “en bloc” magazine system is primitive by today’s standards, the appearance of a large number of semi-automatic, clip-fed rifles in 1936 altered the scope of the war and many of the Axis powers spent the entire war trying to design a rifle to match the M-1 with little success.

M-1D Sniper Rifle: Like all sniper rifles of the WWII era, the M-1D is a modified standard service rifle. It comes equipped with a scope and is a masterwork weapon. The M-1D also comes equipped with a flash-suppressor, requiring a Spot check (DC 15 modified for range) to notice the location of the attacker, even at night. While it was produced and used during WWII, the M-1D does not become a standard-issue weapon for all snipers until the Korean War.

M-2 Carbine: Not introduced until the end of the war, the M-2 Carbine enters service in early 1945 and features selective fire, either semi- or full auto and a larger 30 round magazine.

M-3 Carbine: A radical experiment with early night vision scopes, the M-3 is equipped with an enormous active infrared scope that grants the wielder Low-light vision provided he sights the target through the scope (requiring an attack action). Only 3,000 of these were constructed during the war though an improved (and much lighter) version of this weapon saw action during the Korean War.

M-1903 Springfield Rifle: The standard service weapon of American forces during WWI, the M-1903 continued to see extensive use during WWII. Early in the war, the M-1 could not be produced in sufficient numbers and soldiers had to use the M-1903 until production caught up with demand. Marines especially used the M-1903 during the earliest campaigns of the Pacific theater.

Later in the war, the M-1903 continued to see service with grenadiers, who used these weapons with rifle grenades and as the main weapons issued to Free French forces after 1943.

The M-1903A4 was also the most common sniper rifle in use during the war among American forces. Because of the scope placement, the M-1903A4 cannot use a stripper clip; it must be reloaded one shell at a time.

M-1911A1: One of the best loved handguns in use during WWII, this legendary Colt autoloader was also one of the most feared. A powerful weapon, soldiers reported seeing charging Japanese soldiers stopped in their tracks and even pitched backward from the force of this weapon. Since some Japanese soldiers were also suicide bombers in the later days of the Pacific campaign, this added to the allure of these weapons, which were used in large numbers by the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union.



M-1918 Browning automatic rifle (BAR): A compromise that satisfied no one, the BAR was an attempt at an early “automatic rifle” (what we would today refer to as an assault rifle). It was too heavy for that role and so saw extensive use (with bipod) in the light machinegun role, where its 20-round magazine made it inferior ammunition wise to most true machineguns. Still, the weapon was powerful and reliable and saw extensive use in WWI, WWII, Korea and Viet Nam war (only very early).

MG 34: The standard issue German squad machinegun of WWII, the MG 34 was also the standard defensive weapon on German tanks and aircraft. The weapon typically required a crew of two if used in the light machinegun role (fitted with a bipod) and three if used in the medium machinegun role (fitted with a tripod). Like many German weapons, scopes were a popular (though optional) addition to these weapons. The main drawback of the MG 34 was its expense, especially as the war dragged on and steel became more and more scarce.

MG 42: One of the finest weapons designed during the war, and certainly the best squad-level medium machinegun of the war, the MG 42 had the highest rate of fire of any automatic weapon during the war and was known to Allied soldiers as “Hitler’s buzzsaw” or “Hitler’s zipper” because of the distinctive report of the weapon. German soldiers called it “Hitler’s scythe” or simply “the bonesaw”. The weapon was so

intimidating and dangerous that Allied armies developed training films to deal with the psychological effects of the weapon. After the war, the MG 42 was influential on every subsequent machinegun design. Unfortunately for the Germans, like many of their military advances, the MG 42 didn’t enter the war until 1943 and was never able to be manufactured in sufficient numbers to supplant the MG 34.

MP-40: The standard-issue German submachine gun, the MP-40 was a highly regarded weapon. In limited use during the invasion of Poland, these weapons were mass produced and issued widely through the war, with over a million units seeing service in German military hands before the end of the war.

Mauser Karabiner 98K: The standard rifle of the German Army, the Karabiner 98K was known for its deadly accuracy and superior range. These rifles were often fitted with scopes, increasing their range even further.

Mosin-Nagant M-1891/30 Rifle: An upgraded modification of a weapon first introduced during 1891, the Mosin-Nagant was the standard bolt-action rifle used by Soviet forces throughout WWII. An astounding number of these cheap, sturdy and reliable weapons were constructed, with 17 million being made in the Soviet Union during WWII alone and with production continuing in Eastern Bloc countries into the late 1990’s.

Many of these rifles were converted to sniper rifles (listed separately on the table) and these were considered some of the finest sniper rifles made by any nation during WWII, inflicting terrific casualties on German forces during the Battle of Stalingrad but also the many other urban campaigns of the Eastern Front.

Nagant M-1895: A uniquely designed 7-shot revolver, the Nagant had a status with Soviet military forces equal to that of the M-1911 and the Tommy Gun among American forces. Although primarily a police weapon, some of the M-1895’s design features



made it popular among frontline soldiers, especially those serving in recon capacities. It was also popular with the dreaded NKVD, the Soviet secret police, who were fond of using the weapon for assassination.

The revolver's unique features increased its muzzle velocity substantially (reflected in the weapon's damage).

The primary reason it was preferred by recon and secret police forces was that the weapon could be fitted with a suppressor, while most revolvers cannot.

Unfortunately, the unique features that allow suppressors to be fitted and increase the weapon's muzzle velocity bring a drawback as well: the M-1895 requires twice the reload time of a normal revolver (two full rounds instead of one) and a speed loader cannot be used to reduce reload time.

Being presented with a specially made M-1895 embossed with a red star is one of the highest honors a Soviet military officer of the WWII-era can receive. A weapon presented for such a purpose should be considered masterwork.

Nambu Type 14: A common sidearm among Japanese officers during WWII, the Nambu was sold at Japanese officers' unions. Since Japanese officers were required to buy their own sidearms however, many Japanese officers of means bought imported Western firearms which were frequently more powerful or more reliable (or both).

Nambu Type 94: An extremely small pistol made of plastic to be cheaper and lighter, the Type 94 was constructed for air and tank crews, where space is at a premium. It was used in large numbers throughout WWII.

Owen Gun: The only Australian-designed weapon used during WWII, the Owen was a 9mm submachine gun that was extremely reliable and sturdy, due to its streamlined, simple design. Originally designed to fire a .22 caliber round which was rejected as too light the Australian Army, the designers finally settled on a 9mm design. Originally used by the Australian forces fighting the Japanese in New Guinea, the Owen was extremely popular due to its extreme reliability. It was also ordered by the United States and New Zealand.

PIAT (Projector, Infantry, Anti-Tank): The PIAT was developed in 1941 and arrived in time for the invasion of Sicily in 1943. It was based on the Blacker Bombard, an experimental attempt to develop a direct fire mortar in WWI that was never used operationally. The mortar shell was replaced with a HEAT round (high explosive anti-tank). This weapon could be fired prone and in enclosed spaces, and left little smoke or flame to mark the location of the firer, all significant advantages over the bazooka. However, it had a much shorter range than the bazooka and other anti-tank weapons, meaning this weapon was most useful in close quarters situation where armor or a fortified target needed to be taken out. Thus it was used for the most part in urban warfare campaigns.

When the PIAT hits its target it explodes, damage

everything in a 10-foot radius (Reflex save DC 16 for one-half damage). The PIAT ignores the first 5 Hardness on a vehicle, building or object directly struck (not against things in the blast radius).

PPD-40 SMG: An excellent Soviet SMG with a large ammunition capacity, the PPD-40 was too expensive to be mass produced by the Soviets during WWII and was relatively rare, despite its many excellent qualities.

PPSh-41 SMG: One of the most widely produced weapons in all of WWII, this Soviet SMG was simple and cheap to produce and its chrome-lined chamber and bore made the weapon virtually maintenance free. Despite how cheap and easy they were to make, the quality of these weapons were attested to by their frequent use by German soldiers who captured them.

PTRD 41: A single shot Soviet anti-tank rifle, the PTRD fired a 14.5mm tungsten core shell and could penetrate the side armor of German tanks early in the German invasion of the Soviet Union. Although not particularly effective once the Germans began reinforcing the side armor on their tanks, the PTRD was the only squad level anti-tank weapon available to the Soviets before American bazookas began arriving through lend-lease.

The PTRD 41 ignores the first 3 Hardness of an object, vehicle or building struck.

Panzerfaust: The first disposable anti-tank weapon ever designed (like the modern LAW), the Panzerfaust was able to defeat most armored vehicles of the day, could be easily carried and was extremely cheap and quick to manufacture. These weapons destroyed countless Soviet tanks, especially in the



final offensive push of the Red Army into Germany, since the weapons could still be manufactured even in cities destroyed by enemy aircraft and bombs and wheeled to the front in wheelbarrows.

When the Panzerfaust hits its target it explodes, damaging everything in a 10-foot radius (Reflex save DC 15 for one-half damage). The Panzerfaust ignores the first 5 Hardness of a vehicle, building or object directly struck (not against things in the blast radius).

Pistole 35(p): The official sidearm of the Polish military, the Pistole 35(p) is one of the finest handguns ever designed. Though rare, these weapons are either encountered in the hands of Polish resistance fighters or German soldiers who took one as a trophy.

SVT-40 Semi-automatic Rifle: Introduced in 1939, this Tokarev design was so radically different from other Russian rifles used during WWII that Red Army soldiers had a hard time warming to the rifle despite its much higher rate of fire from the other standard issue rifle of the war, the Mosin-Nagant M-1891/30. Over the course of the war, production of these weapons actually diminished in favor of the Mosin-Nagant M-1891/30 and cheap, easy to maintain SMGs. Russian soldiers were used to durable weapons with low maintenance requirements and the relatively high-maintenance SVT-40 was not popular with them.

Over a million of these weapons were captured by the Germans during the early, disastrous days of Operation Barbarossa and it is sometimes estimated that more of these weapons were used by *German* soldiers than Soviets, since the Germans had no semi-automatic rifle and greatly appreciated the qualities of the SVT-40.

Sauer 38H: These weapons were primarily used by German police forces during WWII. Occasionally a Nazi officer would be presented with one of these weapons as a gift, though such weapons were

specially made and featured very expensive additions such as gold-inlay handles. If an officer carries such a weapon it is almost always a masterwork variety of the standard Sauer 38H.

Short Magazine Lee-Enfield Rifle Mk. III: This iconic weapon is one of the most widely-produced rifles in history and saw extensive use in WWI and WWII. Most of these weapons saw action in the North African, Burmese and Pacific theaters. India and Australia retained the SMLE as their standard issue rifle throughout WWII because it was reliable and could be produced cheaply.

Smith and Wesson Model 10 “Victory”: These weapons were made by the hundreds of thousands during WWII (570,000 to be exact) and had the “V” affixed to their serial number for victory and were provided to British and Commonwealth forces under the American lend-lease program. They were chambered for the less powerful .38/200 round, not the more powerful .38 special round because the .38/200 was in widespread use among British and Commonwealth forces.

Sten Submachine gun: Although the British military was buying Thompson SMGs as fast as American factories could produce them, there was always more demand for the weapons than America could produce, even after its entry into the war in 1942 and the full war mobilization of the American economy. With the Battle of Britain looming, the British government ordered the design of a cheap alternative that could be produced simply and quickly in British factories. The result was the Sten gun, which saw extensive use by British and Commonwealth forces throughout the war.

Sturmgewehr: A very effective German weapon, designed to combine the best qualities of the rifle and SMG and given the name “storm rifle” for propaganda

purposes. When translated into English, this weapon became known as the “assault rifle”, the name by which all weapons of this type are known today. Fortunately these deadly weapons did not enter the war until 1944, too late to change the course of events.

TT-33: A sturdy, reliable, semi-automatic pistol, the TT-33 was produced in great numbers during WWII where it saw extensive use among Soviet officers, tank crews and air crews. Known for a long lifespan and the ability to take a tremendous amount of abuse while maintaining reliability, the TT-33 was still never able to totally supplant the M-1895 revolver. As a testament to the fine construction of the weapon, it is still produced commercially in China today.

Thompson submachine gun: The Thompson was inspired by the trench warfare of WWI and was intended to be a hand-held machine gun. It was one of the very first true submachine guns and certainly one of the most popular. Although it was finished too late to see service in WWI, it was named the Thompson SMG and marketed to civilians at an extremely high price, where its use in bloody gang warfare made it infamous in the 20’s and 30’s.

Two versions of the Thompson saw action in WWII, the M1A1 was smaller and more compact, with a folding stock and used a 30 round box for ammunition. The larger M-1928A1 had a longer barrel and could use either a 20 round box or ammunition drums that carried either 50 or 100 rounds.

The M1A1 was used by the United States Army while the M-1928A1 was used by the United States Marine Corps. Through lend-lease these weapons also saw service in the hands of British Commandos and French Resistance fighters in Europe and by Australian forces in the Pacific (though Australians preferred the Owen Gun).

While the M1-A1 reduced the cost and construction time required to make the Thompson, it was

determined that an almost entirely new design was needed to reduce the construction time and cost even further. The result of these efforts was the M-3A1, colloquially known as the “grease gun” because it resembled one. These weapons were made in General Motors plants and were largely stamped metal with as few moving parts as possible, all to reduce cost and construction time. The M-3A1 was a cheap, no-frills SMG that could only be fired on full auto. These weapons enter service late in the war, not being widely issued until the invasion of Normandy in 1944.

Type 11 Light Machinegun: One of the oldest weapons to see service in WWII, the Type 11 (Japanese weapons of the period are named after the year in which they entered service recorded by the beginning of the current reign i.e. the Meiji Dynasty, so the Type 11 entered service in the 11th year of the Meiji) faced the same basic problem as the Type 38 rifle: its 6.5mm cartridge didn’t pack enough punch. Compounding these problems was the Type 11’s small ammunition reserve (for a machinegun), allowing positions to be overrun while it was reloading.

Type 38 Carbine/Rifle: For a time the standard issue rifle of the Japanese military, the Type 30 was reliable and accurate, with a good range. Despite these qualities, it was determined to have too little power to be a front line rifle. The rifle was made in several variations including a carbine, originally designed for cavalry that was much shorter than the standard infantry version. The carbine variation of the Type 38 was carried by non-frontline soldiers throughout WWII, including engineers and quartermasters. Another popular variation of

this rifle encountered during WWII was the Type 94 carbine, identical to the Type 38 except for a built-in bayonet that could be folded back when unneeded.

Type 92 Heavy Machinegun: An overall excellent weapon, the Type 92 saw extensive usage throughout the Pacific theater during WWII. Despite its weight, it could be carried fully assembled and thus change position somewhat faster than other heavy machineguns which could only be moved when disassembled. Although the weapon’s ammunition size was still only 30 rounds, it was an open “hopper” design allowing ammunition to be fed into the hopper by a reloader for continuous fire.

Type 97 Sniper Rifle: Like most sniper rifles of the WWII era, the Type 97 was a standard infantry weapon worked for greater accuracy and fitted with a scope. In this case the Type 97 is simple a modified Type 38.

Type 99 Light Machinegun: The Type 99 solved one of the problems of the Type 11 LMG, namely the use of the 7.7mm cartridge to increase the power of the weapon. However it still used a small 30 round drum rather than the 200-round belts that could be linked for continuous fire commonly found in the machineguns of other powers during this period.



Type 99 Rifle: Based on the Type 38 but employing the more powerful 7.7mm round, the Type 99 was intended to completely replace the Type 38. The outbreak of the war prevented this from ever being completely done however so both weapons were encountered in the hands of Japanese servicemen during the war.

Type 100 SMG: Not introduced until 1942, the Nambu Type 100 served well throughout Japan’s defense of its Pacific holdings and was a well-made, if unspectacular SMG.

Vickers Gun: The Vickers was the standard British medium machinegun as well as the standard vehicle-mounted machinegun of the First World War. Because of the weapon’s power and extremely reliability (firing 1,000,000 rounds without a single misfire was not unheard of) it continued in the infantry as a medium machinegun through WWII. In aircraft it was replaced by the Browning .303 machinegun in WWII. Because of its large size and heavy weight (ground-based versions were water-cooled) the Vickers was operated a crew of 6: 1 gunner, 1 reloader and the rest of the team helped carry the weapon, extra barrels and spare parts.

The weapon could only be fired effectively from a fixed position (including vehicles) and had to be disassembled to be moved effectively more than a few yards. Disassembling or reassembling a Vickers Gun requires 1 minute (10 rounds) with a full crew of 6. If less than 6 crewmen are available, this increases the time by 1 minute per missing crewman (so a team of 4 would require 3 minutes to disassemble or reassemble the weapon).

Walther P-38: A sleek, modern semi-automatic pistol, the P-38 was the official sidearm for German military forces in WWII. It was designed to replace the expensive Luger. It was used primarily by German forces throughout the war, though late in the war French resistance fighters used many captured models.

Walther PP/PPK: A gun designed from the ground up for the needs of policemen, the Walther PP (police pistol) and Walther PPK (police pistol, detective model) were popular among soldiers and resistance fighters as well (though most of these weapons were in fact carried by German policemen). The PPK is the more popular model because it is small and easy to conceal.

Webley Mk. VI: Although the Enfield Revolver was the standard issue sidearm for British and Commonwealth forces during WWII, there was a constant shortage of weapons throughout the war, especially prior to the American lend-lease program. This caused many older, out of service weapons to be issued to soldiers. One of these, the Webley Mk. VI, which had initially been issued in 1899 during the Boer War was extremely popular with soldiers, especially those fighting in the Pacific because of the added stopping power of its .455 round.

AMMUNITION AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

Ammunition Type	Purchase DC (20 rounds)
.30 Carbine	4
.30-06	5
.303	5
.32	4
.38/200	4
.45	4
6.5mm	4
7.62mmx25	5
7.62x54mmR	5
7.7mm	5
8mm	4
9mm	4
Stripper Clip	2

Stripper Clip: This device acts like a speed loader for rifles with an internal magazine, allowing entire internal magazine to be reloaded with one action rather than reloading a round at a time.

OTHER WEAPONS

Besides the weapons listed in this book, there are other weapons that have not changed much since WWII found in the Modern SRD that will be at the characters disposal as well. Grenades and flamethrowers were used by all sides during the war and can be used “as is” from the Modern SRD.

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