

then closed fully, leaving the rear end of the shell extractor in contact with its front face. The drift plug was next dropped, small end first, down the bore and then driven into the shell extractor with the ramrod, expanding its split end outward against the cartridge case fragment. When this had been done, the breechblock was opened and the ruptured cartridge case driven out of the chamber by further blows on the head of the ramrod. After its removal, the case fragment was twisted free of the shell extractor.

Another use for the Model 1882 headless shell extractor was in removing caked powder fouling or leading from the bore as the annular grooves on its rifled side had a broach-like action.—M.D.W.



Cal. 7.62 mm. NATO M160 frangible ball cartridge (l.) with cal. .30 M22 frangible ball cartridge.

### M160 Frangible Cartridge

*I have a 7.62 mm. NATO cartridge that has a grayish-colored bullet and the color coding on its tip is like that used on the bullet of the M22 cal. .30 frangible ball cartridge (see "Frangible Cartridge History," The American Rifleman, Nov., 1972, pp. 76-77). Do I have a U.S. 7.62 mm. NATO frangible ball cartridge? What information can you supply on this round?*

**Answer:** Your round is the U.S. 7.62 mm., Cartridge, Ball, Frangible, M160, and it was assembled with the same 108-gr. 50% lead-50% bakelite composition bullet used in the M22 cal. .30 frangible cartridge.

The approximately 4.6 million M160 rounds loaded thus far by Frankford Arsenal have been assembled with bullets pulled from M22 rounds.

The Frankford Arsenal specifications for the M160 7.62 mm. NATO frangible ball cartridge are as follows:

Muzzle Velocity—	1360 f.p.s.
Chamber Pressure—	6,000 p.s.i.
Maximum Range—	2019 yds. at 30° elevation

Unlike the M22 cartridge, the M160 cartridge is not obsolete and is produced as needed.—K.C.R.

APRIL 1974

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