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AK-47: SAFETY CHAPTER

**LOADING**

- A. Check ammo for dents in cartridges and bad primers.
- B. When inserting magazine into magazine well, be sure to insert forward lip of magazine into well first. Be sure that magazine is fully seated.

**FIRING**

- A. Pull charging handle, shown on page 11 figure 16, fully to the rear and release.

**NOTE: DO NOT RIDE CHARGING HANDLE FORWARD:**

- B. When on the firing line, keep your weapon up and pointed down range at all times. If you have a malfunction, raise your hand and range personnel will aid you.

**CAUTION:** Only blank ammunition may be fired when the blank firing device is in place. Do not use the cap of the combination tool kit as a blank firing device.

**HAND GRENADE LAUNCHER:** The hand grenade launcher is installed by removing the muzzle nut (fig. 53) and screwing the launcher onto the weapon (fig. 54).

**TO FIRE THE GRENADE:** Insert a grenade with the pin pulled into the launcher.

**CAUTION:** A special type cartridge is used for firing the grenade. Place the butt of the weapon on the ground and fire from this position. The maximum effective range the grenade can be fired is 150 meters.

**THE BAYONET:** (fig. 55) is affixed by positioning its loops in front of the muzzle nut and gas cylinder body and sliding the bayonet to the rear until the bayonet catch engages the muzzle nut (fig. 56). The bayonet is removed by pulling the catch, located behind the hilt, away from the handle and sliding the bayonet forward and off.

**PLASTIC MAGAZINE:** The Soviet AK-47 metal magazine is gradually being replaced by the plastic magazine, (fig. 57), which is lighter than the metal. The plastic magazine, because it is lightweight and waterproof, is used mainly by marines, airborne, and armor units.

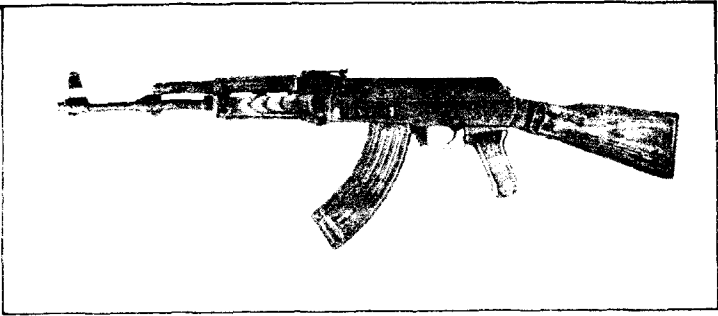


FIGURE 1. LEFT VIEW, AK-47

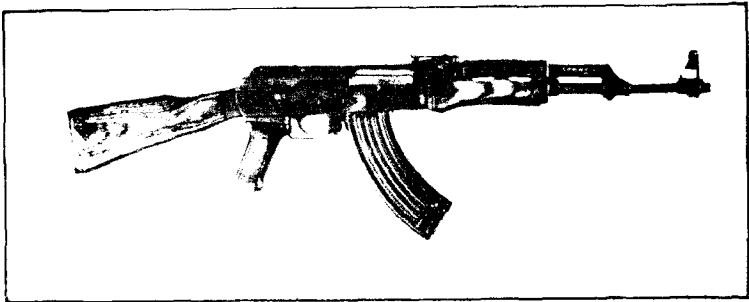


FIGURE 2. RIGHT VIEW, AK-47

## SECTION I. GENERAL

The AK-47 (fig 3) is a short, compact, selective-fired weapon designed by the Soviets in 1946 which fires a cartridge intermediate in power between submachine gun and rifle cartridges. It has a mild recoil which gives it the capability of delivering effective full automatic fire up to 300 meters.

In addition to the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, East Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, North Korea, Hungary, and Yugoslavia have manufactured the AK-47. The selector markings on the right side of the receiver provide a ready means of identifying the country of origin (fig 4).

The AK-47 is produced in two different basic models - one with a conventional fixed wooden stock (fig 5) and the other with a folding metal stock (fig 6). The folding stock is used mostly by airborne and armor units.

## SECTION II. TECHNICAL DATA

Cartridge	7.62x39mm
Feed	Magazine (fig 7)
Magazine capacity	30 rds
Gas operated	
Weight	9.5 lb
Length	34.2 in
Length w/folded stock	27.5 in
Rate of fire semiautomatic	40 rpm
Rate of fire automatic	100 rpm
Rate of fire cyclic	600-800 rpm
Maximum effective range	400 meters



FIGURE 3. AK-47

## WEAPON MARKINGS

























FACTORY	SELECTOR			COUNTRY
	SAFE-UPPER	MID	LOWER	
 1954 r.		AB	OA	USSR
 56-1		连	单	PRC
		L	D	PRC
M22		L	D	PRC
 58 4		烈	单	N. KOREA
		AB	ED	BULG.
 1962		C	P	POL.
 1966	S	FA	FF	RUM.
 63		D	E	E. GERM.
 1951 r		AB	OA	USSR
 五六式		火		PRC
  				PRC
 				PRC
				E. GERM.
				PRC
				PRC
		ПР	ОГОНЬ	USSR
		ПР	ОГОНЬ	USSR
				CZECH
		∞	1	HUNGARY
		...	.	FINLAND
		R	J	YUGOSLAVIA
		30	1	CZECH
 63		D	E	E. GERM.
		烈	单	N. KOREA
 五六式		L	D	PRC

FIGURE 4



FIGURE 5. WOODEN STOCK



FIGURE 6. FOLDING STOCK

### SECTION III. OPERATION

**Loading the Magazine:** Place a round between the feed lips (fig 8). Press it down until it locks inside the magazine. Repeat until magazine is full (30 rds).

**Inserting the magazine into the receiver:** Cant the magazine forward so the lug on the front of the magazine engages with its recess in the magazine well (fig 9); then pull the magazine to the rear until it snaps into place.

**Loading the AK-47:** Pull the operating handle (fig 10), fully to the rear and release it so the lug on the bottom of the bolt can strip a round from the magazine and into the chamber. NOTE: The selector (fig 11), must be in a firing position.

**CAUTION:** Always keep the selector in the safe (upper) position until the weapon is ready to be fired.

**Firing the AK-47:** Place the selector on the desired position (automatic middle position, and semi-automatic lower position)(fig 12). Aim using a normal sight picture and pull the trigger.

The AK-47 with the metal stock can also be fired with the stock folded. This is done by pressing the stock latch located on the left rear of the receiver (fig 13), swinging the stock down beneath the weapon (fig 14). This position is used mainly by airborne and armor units.

**Immediate action:** For a runaway gun, keep the rifle pointed up and down range until all ammunition is expended. Clear the weapon and inspect it to determine the cause of the malfunction. Immediate action for a misfire is to keep the rifle pointed down range for at least one minute. Then pull the operating handle to the rear and eject the misfired round. Load a new round and attempt to fire it. If it does not fire, wait one minute and then unload the rifle. Inspect to determine the cause of the malfunction.

**Unloading:** Remove the magazine by pressing the magazine catch (fig 15) toward the magazine; then swing the magazine forward and out of the receiver. Pull the operating handle fully to the rear, inspect the chamber and receiver. If no cartridge is present, release the operating handle and pull the trigger (fig 16).

**Zeroing:** Set the rear sight for the desired range by pressing in on the slide catch and moving the slide bar along the leaf until the front edge of the bar is aligned with the line below the number that corresponds with the range in meters (fig 17).

The front sight post can be screwed in or out of its base to adjust for elevation. The wrench in the combination tool kit is used

for this purpose (fig 18). Lateral zeroing is done by moving the cylindrical front sight post mount from side to side using the lateral zeroing tool (fig 19).

If the strike of the bullet is below the control point, the front sight should be screwed in. If above, it should be screwed out. If the strike of the bullet is to the left of the control point, the slide of the front sight should be moved to the left; if to the right, to the right.

Moving the front sight slide to the left, right, up or down 1mm, changes the strike of the bullet 26cm at 100 meters. One full turn on the front sight post moves the strike of the bullet 20cm when firing at 100 meters. Front sight post changes should be verified by a group of four individually aimed shots. After the weapon has been zeroed, the old mark should be removed and a new one written in.



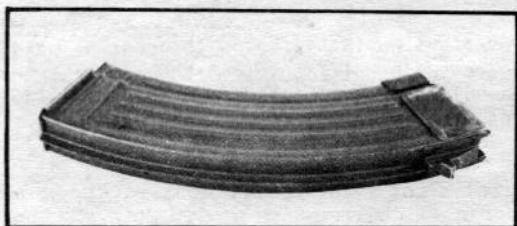


FIGURE 7. AK-47 MAGAZINE

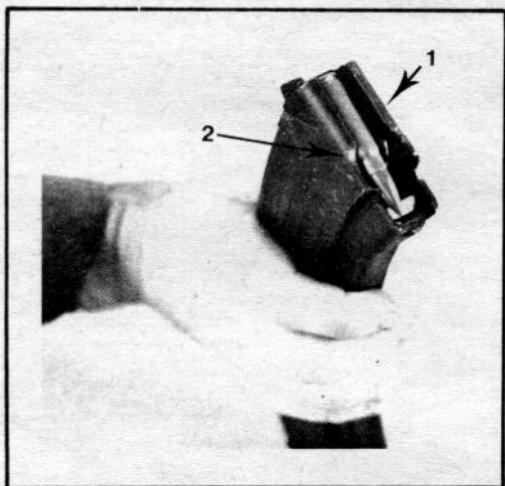


FIGURE 8. LOADING MAGAZINE

1 & 2. FEED LIPS



FIGURE 9. INSERTING MAGAZINE

1. MAGAZINE LUG
2. MAGAZINE WELL

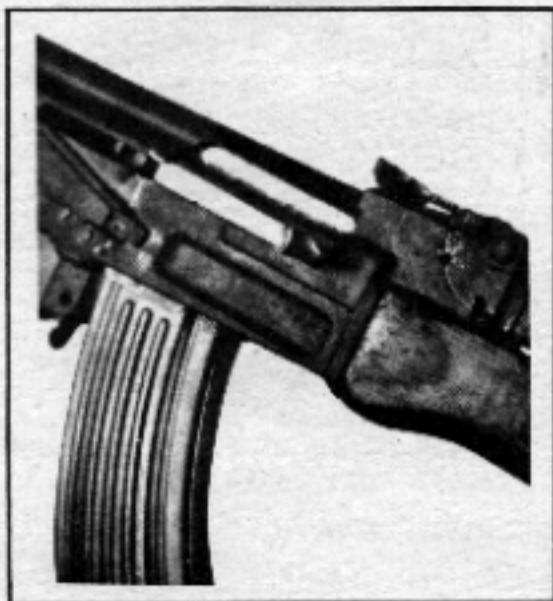


FIGURE 10. OPERATING HANDLE

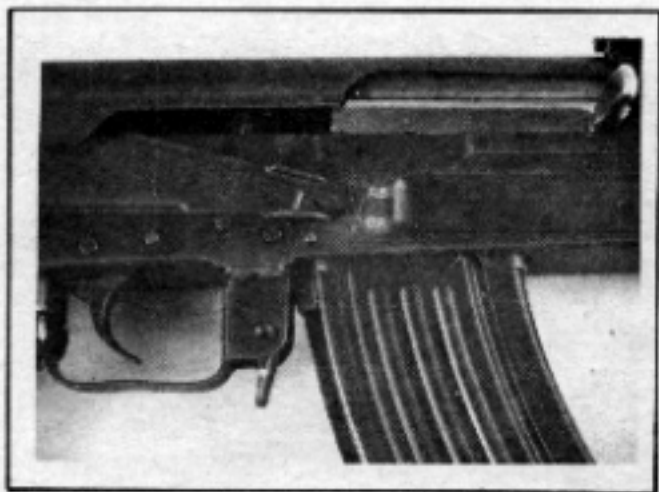


FIGURE 11. SELECTOR IN FIRING POSITION

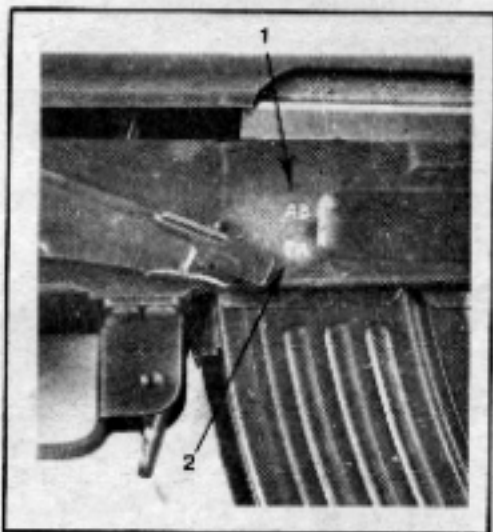


FIGURE 12. SELECTOR IN FIRING POSITION

1. AUTOMATIC
2. SEMIAUTOMATIC



FIGURE 13. FOLDING STOCK

- 1. STOCK
- 2. STOCK LATCH



FIGURE 14. STOCK FOLDED

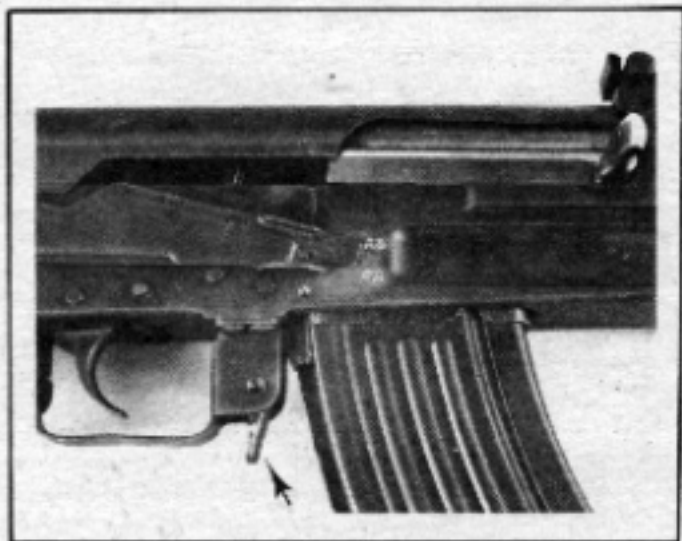


FIGURE 15. MAGAZINE CATCH



FIGURE 16. OPERATING HANDLE

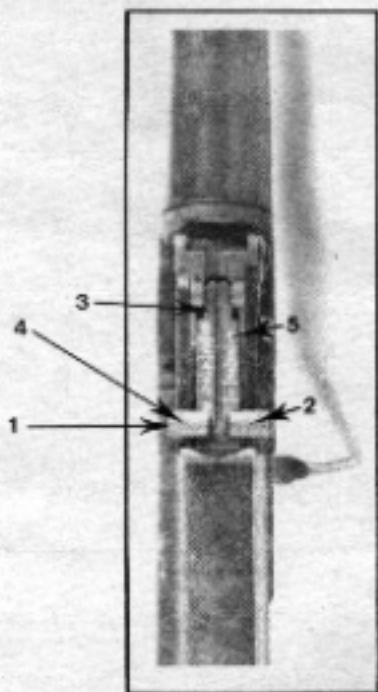


FIGURE 17. REAR SIGHT

- 1. SLIDE CATCH
- 2. SLIDE BAR
- 3. LEAF
- 4. BAR FRONT EDGE
- 5. NUMBERS

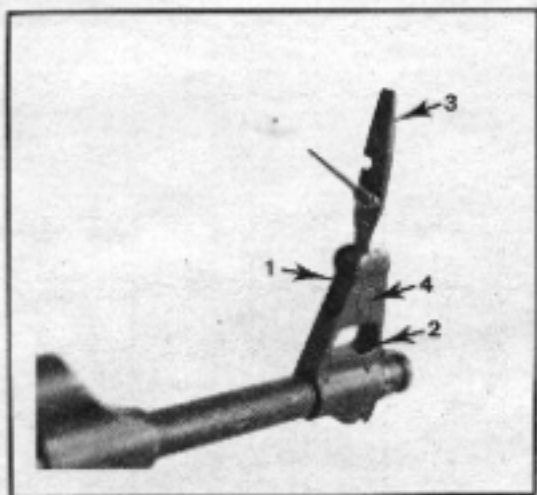


FIGURE 18. FRONT SIGHT

1. FRONT SIGHT POST
2. BASE
3. COMBINATION TOOL
4. CYLINDRICAL POST MOUNT

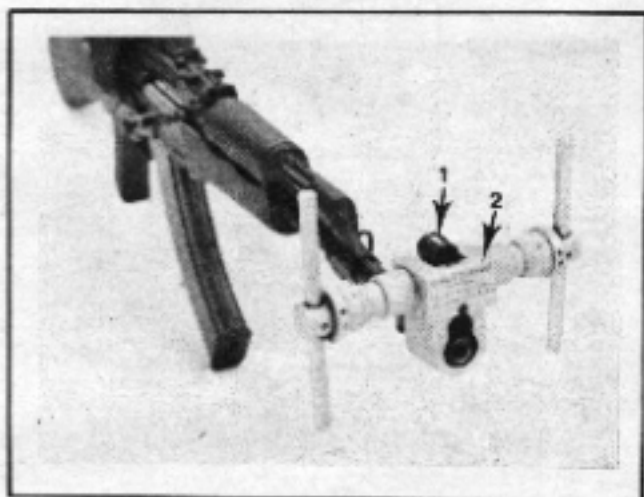


FIGURE 19. FRONT SIGHT

1. FRONT SIGHT BASE
2. SPECIAL TOOL