# HANDBOOK OF ENEMY AMMUNITION

## PAMPHLET No. 7

ITALIAN FUZES, GAINES, SHELL, CARTRIDGES, PRIMERS AND DETAILS OF SHELL MARKINGS. GERMAN PRIMERS, SMALL ARM AND GUN AMMUNITION

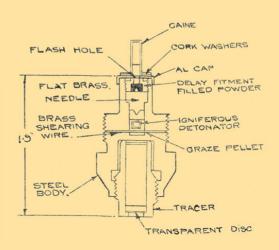
by Command of the Army Council

Le Inmodes.

THE WAR OFFICE, 5th June, 1943.

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# ITALIAN MARKINGS ON A.P., H.E., HOLLOW CHARGE AND SHRAPNEL SHELL (Fig. 1)

The following markings have been met with in the course of examining captured Italian shell of the above-mentioned types. The types bearing these markings are of recent manufacture. The markings of earlier types do not always conform to the system.

### Basic Colours of Body

With each of the types the body of the shell is pale blue (almost a light grey) and the head (i.e., from nose to just above the shoulder) is red. When a cap is fitted to the shell the cap is red. The 100/17 hollow charge shell is an exception in that the cap is orange. Whether this is by design or is due to a variation in the shade of colour is not yet clear. These basic colours are normally applied by a process similar to sherardizing instead of by painting. The result is a flat finish and the absence of an obvious coating.

#### **Bands**

A green band immediately above the driving band is found on shell both of the piercing type and normal nose fuzed H.E. type when filled T.N.T. or amatol.

A brown band immediately above the driving band is found on shrapnel shell.

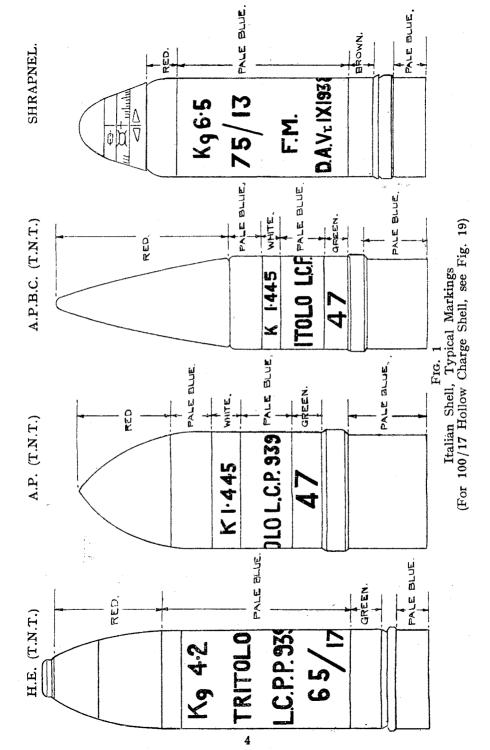
A white band appears to be the distinguishing marking of shell designed for the attack of armour. With armour piercing shell the band is at the approximate centre between the shoulder and the driving band. With hollow charge shell the band is immediately above the driving band.

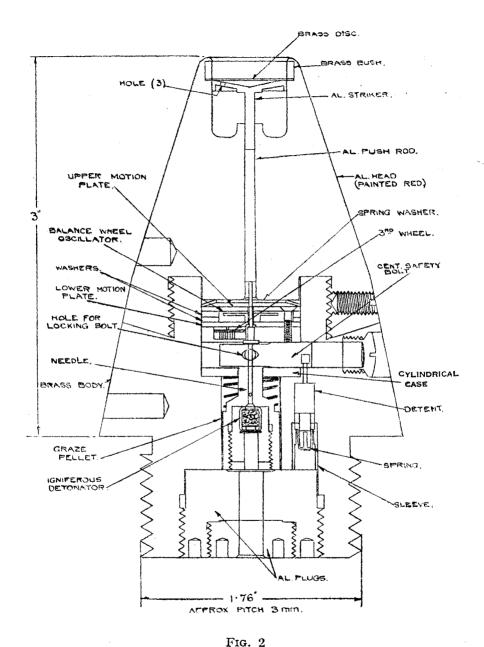
### Stencilling

The following particulars regarding the shell are normally stencilled in black between the shoulder and the driving band:—

- (a) Weight of filled shell in kilograms.
- (b) Nature of bursting charge. Shell filled with cast T.N.T. either by the pouring process or in the form of blocks are stencilled "TRITOLO." Those filled cyclonite/T.N.T. are stencilled "TRITOLITE." Shell filled amatol are stencilled "Amatolo."
- (c) Letters indicating the filling factory followed by the last three figures of the year of filling.
- (d) The calibre of the equipment in millimetres followed by an oblique stroke and the length of the piece expressed in terms of calibres.

The marking "Migl" indicates a modified design.





Italian D.A./Graze Fuze with Clockwork Safety Device