



## DEFENCE UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE WEBSITE ORDNANCE INFORMATION SHEET

**ALL UXO MAY BE HAZARDOUS IF DISTURBED  
DO NOT TOUCH – TAKE A PHOTO – MARK THE LOCATION – CALL THE POLICE**

### ROCKET - 84 MM ANTI-ARMOUR

#### Description

- The 84mm “Carl Gustav” is a portable, reusable, single shot, shoulder-fired anti-tank recoilless rifle. Variants include the M1 (1946), M2 (1964), M3 (1991), M4 (2012). The 84mm is produced by Saab Bofors Dynamics and is known in Australia as the ‘Carl Gustav’, M2 - Short Range Anti-Armour Weapon (SRAAW) or M3 - Medium Direct Fire Support Weapon (MDFSW); in the US, the Multi-role Anti-armour Anti-tank Weapon System (MAAWS). The weapon remains in use today.
- Munitions commonly used with the 84mm Carl Gustav include the following:
  - **High Explosive (HE)** – The 441/441B projectile is intended for use against troops, machine gun posts and vehicles; used by the Australian Army during the 1970s to the present.
  - **High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT/751)** and **High Explosive Anti-Tank - Rocket Assisted Projectile (HEAT-RAP/551)** - May be fuzed for point detonation, delay or airburst. Some are composed of tandem charges. RAP has a rocket booster motor.
  - **High Explosive Dual Purpose (HEDP/502)** – Used against fortifications. The delay base fuze allows the projectile to penetrate prior to activation. Currently in use.
  - **Area Defence Munition (ADM/401)** - Contains 1100 flechettes; shell contains no explosives - flechettes are released by gas pressure.
  - **Anti-Structure Munition (ASM/509)** - Used for destruction of buildings and structures; currently in use.
  - **Smoke (Smk/469)** - titanium tetrachloride and calcium silicate compound; currently in use.
  - **Illumination (Illum/545)** - Sodium flare compound star shell; suspended by parachute; currently in use.
  - **Target Practice, Tracer (TPT/141)** and **Target Practice Rocket Assisted Projectile (TP RAP/551)** – have no explosive content except for the rocket booster and tracer. Currently in use.
- Unexploded items of this type are most often found in/near areas used by the Army for infantry live firing practices - typically on or just below the ground surface. Some contain piezo-electric fuses which can be extremely sensitive to shock and sudden change of temperature as a UXO.

#### Technical Data

- Mmunition length : approx. 440-530 mm
- Mmunition diameter : approx. 84mm
- Mmunition weight : approx 3.0-4.0 kg
- Fuse/Burster : May contain a piezo-electric fuse and/or base detonation fuse.
- Filling : varied between 500 to 600 grams of high explosive or other filler.
- Identification : The round is made of aluminium and steel for the HE rounds. Generally painted black. The projectile may have one or more bands of colour. Yellow, red or green bands/stripes were most often used to denote HE munitions however other colours may have been used or colours may have faded over time. It can be difficult to distinguish between dangerous and safe items - **treat all found munitions as dangerous.**

Images



Figure 1 - Carl Gustav L14A1 Anti-Armour Weapon (M2) of the type used by Australian Army during the Vietnam War c. 1965 (AWM ID RELAWM40992.001)



Figure 2 - 84mm HE



Figure 3 - 84mm HEAT



Figure 4 - 84mm Illum

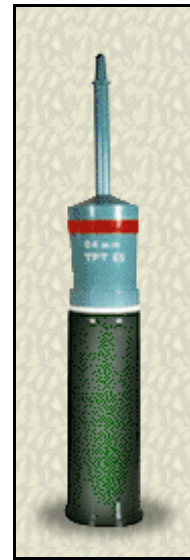


Figure 5 - 84mm TP/Prac

Note: Shapes and colours as shown above have changed over time.  
Newer variants may have different shapes or colours



Figure 6 – 84mm Smoke



Figure 7 - Australian troops firing the 84mm Carl Gustav