

15 MARCH 1945



VII-5

Rifles and Automatic Rifles

a. MODEL 98 RIFLE AND CARBINE (*Gewehr 98* and *Karabiner 98*). (1) *General description*. The standard German rifles and carbines are all of the same basic bolt-operated Mauser design (*Figs. 9* and *10*), but may be divided into three distinct types. These are the rifle Model 98 (*Gewehr 98*) which is 49½ inches long and has the sling fitted underneath; the long barrel carbine Model 98 b (*Karabiner 98 b*) which is approximately the same length as the rifle; and the short carbine Model 98 k (*Karabiner 98 k*) which is 43½ inches long. Each weapon has a safety catch at the rear of the bolt similar to the safety on the U. S. rifle M1903 and a blade front sight and V rear sight graduated from 100 to 2,000 meters (109 to 2,190 yards). The *Gewehr 98* fires rifle grenades from a grenade launcher cup or from a spigot launcher.

(2) *Characteristics*.

Caliber.....7.92 mm (0.312 inch).
Weight (each
type)9 pounds (approximately).
Feed.....5-round clip.
Effective range.....800 yards.

(3) *Ammunition*. These weapons fire the standard German 7.92-mm rimless small-arms ammunition.

b. MODEL 33/40 RIFLE (*Gewehr 33/40*). The Germans have designed the *Gewehr 33/40* as a special short rifle for parachutists or for personnel carrying concealed arms. The weapon is fitted with a folding stock, hinged on the left and retained in position by a press catch on the right side. When the rifle is not in use, the stock can be folded along the left of the piece. Apart from the folding stock the rifle is normal in design and similar to the 98 models.

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c. MODEL 41 RIFLE (*Gewehr 41*). (1) *General description.* This is a semiautomatic rifle (*Fig. 10*) which is made in two models, the *Gewehr 41 m* and *Gewehr 41 w*, similar in operation and differing only slightly in construction. Both models are gas-operated; the gases are compressed in a gas choke at the muzzle, forcing to the rear a floating piston mounted concentrically around the barrel. The movement of the piston is communicated to the bolt head, and the rifle is recoiled automatically after each round has been fired. The weapon is fed through a magazine fixed in the receiver which holds two standard rifle clips. Both models have a blade front sight and leaf rear sight graduated from 100 to 1,200 meters (109 to 1,310 yards). When fitted with a telescopic sight this rifle can be used as a sniper's weapon.

(2) *Characteristics.*

Caliber7.92 mm (0.312 inch).
 Length, over-all45 inches.
 Weight10 pounds 14 ounces.
 Feed.....Two 5-round clips.

(3) *Ammunition.* This weapon fires the 7.92-mm rimless ammunition.

Figure 9.—Gewehr 98 with grenade launcher attached, showing rifle grenades.

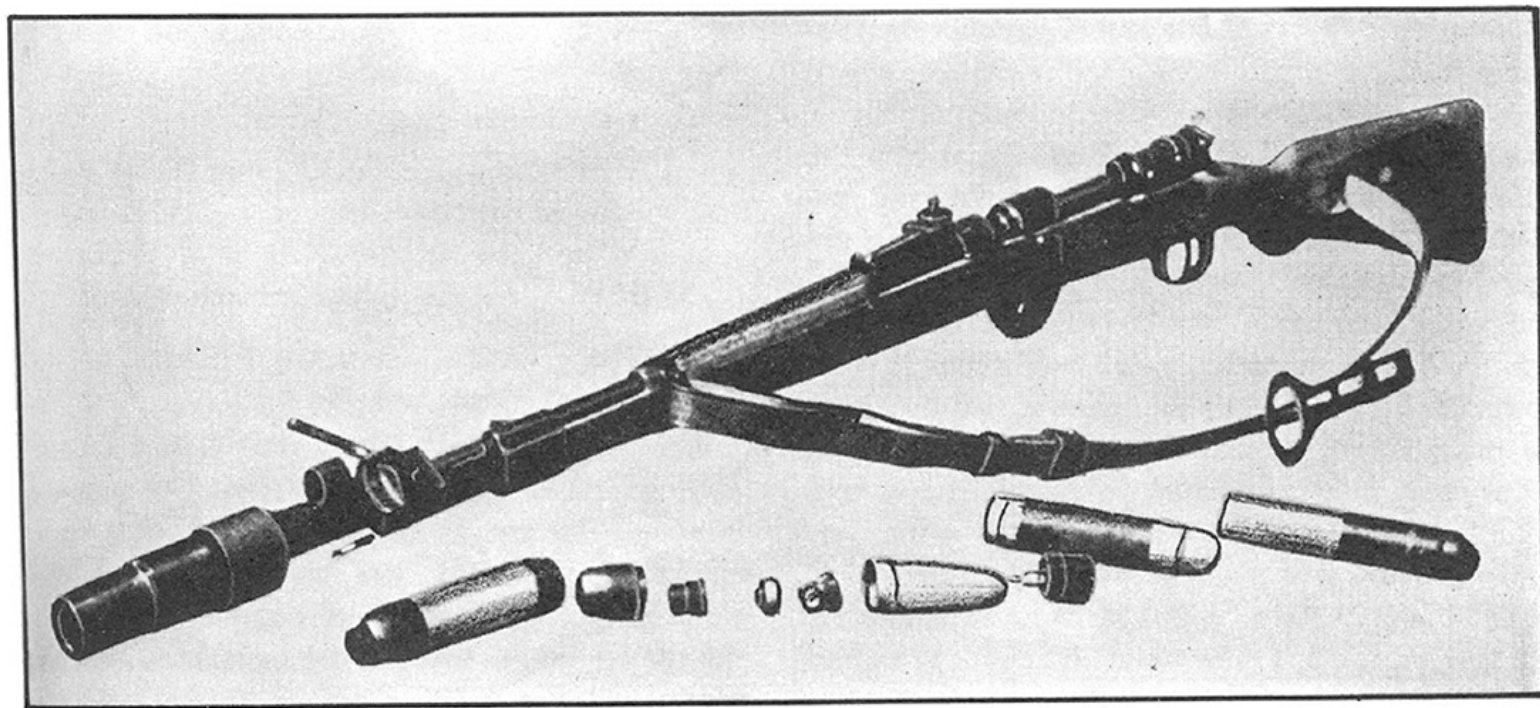


Figure 10.—Gewehr 41, caliber 7.92 mm semiautomatic rifle.

