NZAR ID 315, ARM TYPE: Pistol. Draft date (V1) 3 Jan 2013, Compiled by John Osborne AA DTT PhD FSG, Pattern: Webley MKIV M1899. Caliber: 455 MKII Cordite. Introduced in UK: 1899. Withdrawn: after WWII?

Specifications: Maker: Webley & Scott. Barrel: 4" 100mm also 5". Caliber: chambered for .455" short (more efficient) MKII cordite cartridge introduced in 1897, Action: Double Action, 6 chamber top break self-extracting cartridge revolver. Bakelite (synthetic plastic – composite) grips. Fixed notch rear sight and blade foresight. Muzzle velocity: 620ft/s 190 m/s Range 50m. Rate of fire: 20-30 rounds per minute. Weight: 1kg unloaded. The MKIV was an improved Mark III, made from different stronger steel, with a smaller and lighter hammer and wider cylinder slots. Cartridge: Solid drawn brass case with .455" 265 grain hollow based wax lubricated lead projectile propelled by 13 grains Cordite. The MKIV would also chamber and fire the earlier .450" Boxer / Adams cartridge, but not the .455" Long MKI black powder or the MKI Cordite Cartridges.



New Zealand Service: The standard-issue Webley revolver at the outbreak of the First World War was the Webley Mk V (adopted 9 December 1913), but there were considerably more Mk IV revolvers in service in 1914, as the initial order for 20,000 Mk V revolvers had not been completed when hostilities began. From earliest days commissioned officers and some NCO's in the NZ military were expected to purchase their own pistols which would accept the military issue ammunition. Other makes of pistols were also available. This revolver has a NZ provenance seeing service with its commissioned officer owner in the Boer War and WWI and many MKIVs saw home guard use in WWII.

Acknowledgements and special thanks to: NZ National Achieves Military Records. Osborne Arms Museum armsmuseum@xtra.co.nz Phil Cregeen. Chris Punnett – "Those Confusing .455s". www.cartridgecollectors.org

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