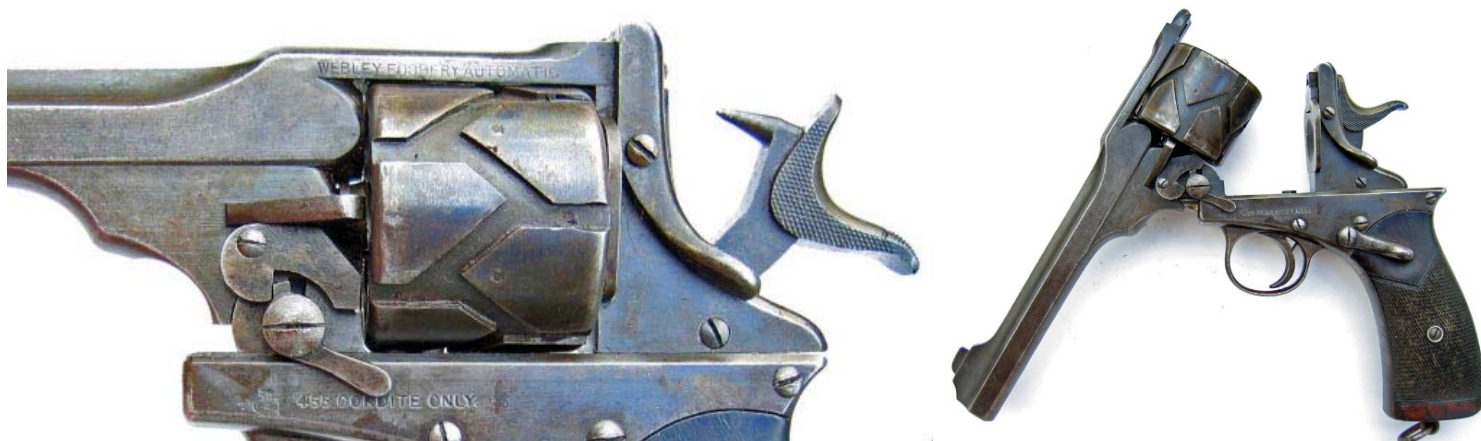


NZAR ID 316, ARM TYPE: Pistol. Draft date (V1) 10 Jan 2013, Compiled by John Osborne AA DTT PhD FSG,
Pattern: Webley Fosbery Automatic. Caliber: .455" MKII Cordite. Introduced: 1901. Withdrawn: after WWII?

Specifications: Maker: P Webley & Son (Webley & Scott after 1897). Patented by Col G V Fosbery 16 August 1895, June & October 1896. About 4237 made between 1901 & 1924. Barrel lengths 7.5", 6" and 4". Easily recognizable by the zig-zag grooves on the cylinder. Caliber: .455" MKII (Short) Cordite introduced 1897. Action: Recoil operated self cocking semi-automatic, 6 chamber top break (cartridges fall out when opened) (Serial No 869 made 1902). Checkered wooden grips. Fixed notch rear sight and blade foresight. Muzzle velocity: 620 ft/s 190 m/s Range 50m. Rate of fire: about 30 rounds / minute including loading time. Weight: 1.20kg (6" barrel) unloaded.



New Zealand Service: 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. Some commissioned and Senior Non Commissioned Officers were recruited from Britain bringing to NZ their personally owned Pistols. The Webley Fosbery Automatic was a more expensive revolver made specifically for those personal and available from military outfitters and retail arms dealers. Other makes of pistols were also available. By 1903 there were 227 Volunteer Units in New Zealand which had provided officers and men for the Ten contingents of New Zealand Mounted Rifle Volunteers (NZMR) totaling 6495 with 8000 horses shipped from NZ served in South Africa between 1899 and 1903 (the term of service was one year), the largest proportion of representation from any British Colony. Continued use through WWI and WWII and for competition target shooting .

Acknowledgements and special thanks to: NZ National Achieves Military Records. Osborne Arms Museum armsmuseum@xtra.co.nz Phil Cregeen. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Webley-Fosbery_Automatic_Revolver Ian Skennerton. Chris Punnett – "Those Confusing .455s". www.cartridgecollectors.org Gordon Bruce "Webley & Scott Automatic Pistols"

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