

NZAR ID 424 ARM TYPE: Pistol. Draft date (V1) 3 Nov 2014, Compiled by John Osborne AA DTT PhD FSG,

Pattern: Colt New Service MKI Revolver. Caliber: .455". Introduced 1914. Withdrawn: after WWII

Specifications: Maker: Colt, Solid frame. Barrel: 5.5". Caliber: .455" MKII cordite (short). Length O/A: 10.5". Double Action, 6 chamber swing out cylinder hand eject. Grips: Square butt - two piece composite. Fixed notch rear sight and blade foresight. Muzzle velocity: 640ft/s Range 50yds. Rate of fire: 20-30 rounds per minute. Weight: 2lb 6oz unloaded. Cartridge: Solid drawn brass case Mark II .455 cartridge introduced 1897 with a case length of .760", a 265 grain conical wax lubricated lead bullet, would also fire the earlier .450" Boxer / Adams cartridge.



New Zealand Service: In 1914 Britain contracted Colt to supply 60,000 MKI New Service revolvers to supplement the standard-issue revolver which at the outbreak of WWI was the Webley Mk V adopted 9 December 1913. Commissioned officers and some NCO's in the NZ military were expected to purchase their own pistols The Colt New Service was a popular revolver with British and New Zealand Army officers, and many of them had privately purchased their own Colt New Service revolvers in the years prior to World War 1

This Colt New Service .455"MKI Revolver has a NZ provenance seeing service in WWI with its NZ Commissioned Officer owner and WWII used by another NZ Commissioned Officer.

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