

This grenade was introduced in December 1940 when the allies were about to run into the German juggernaut with totally inadequate equipment and methods. It was an offensive grenade relying on blast for its effects. It was made from the then relatively new material “Bakelite” which is what we now know as a thermo-setting plastic.

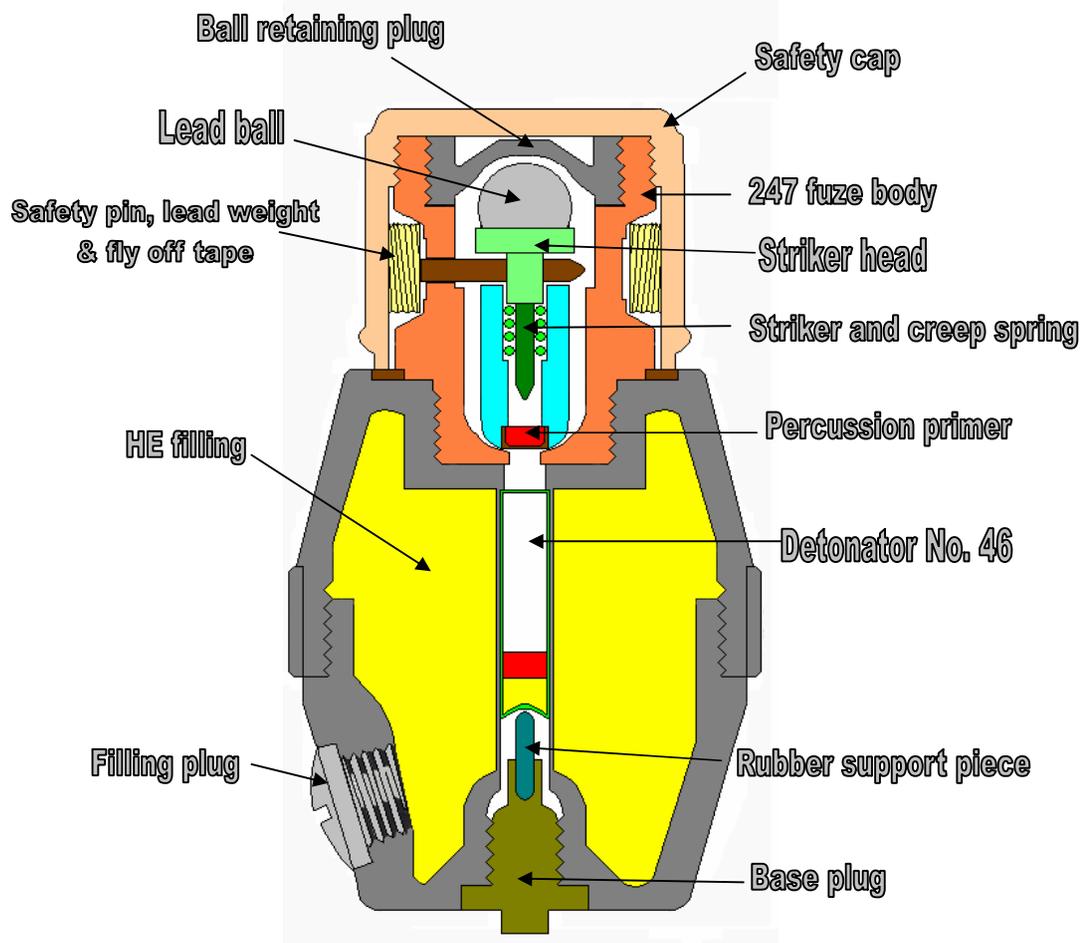
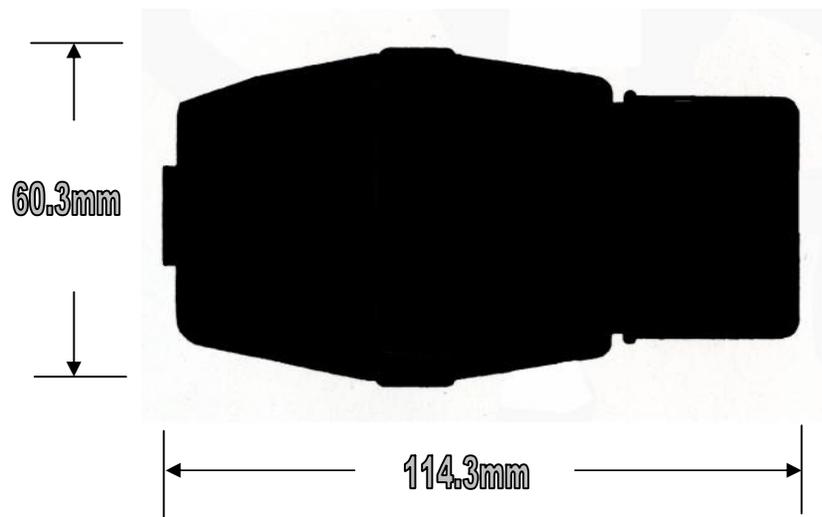
It was fitted with an allways fuze and filled with .42 kg of either Amatol, Baratol or Lyddite. The detonator was a number 46 filled with ASA composition over a CE main charge.

The grenade was supplied with the detonator as a separate component assembled prior to throwing. The transit/safety cap was retained in position by a piece of adhesive tape.

Some trials were carried out during 1944 with a fragmentation sleeve with the idea of converting it to a defensive grenade but it was shown to be inferior to the current HE grenades so the project was dropped.

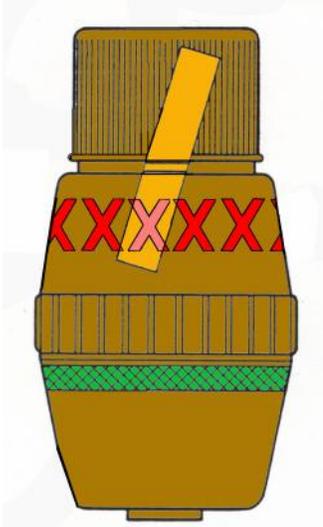


These two grenades show the basic colours to be encountered, a reddish style with flecks of black and a black.

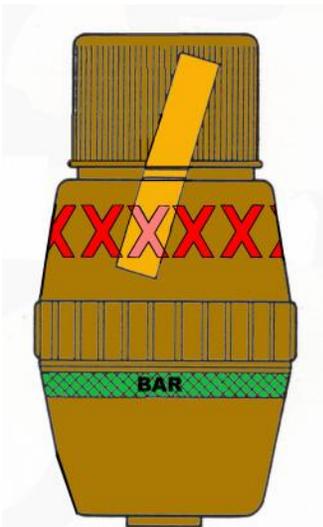


ACTION.

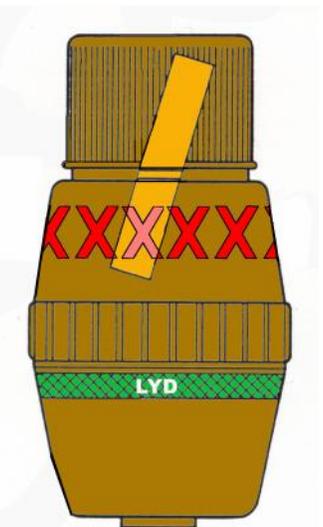
Prior to throwing the base plug is removed and the detonator inserted. The safety cap is removed ensuring that the lead weight and tape are held to prevent movement. On throwing the lead weight flies off and takes the tape with it, this action removes the safety pin from the striker head. On impact the lead ball drives the striker down against the creep spring resistance into the percussion cap. The flash from the percussion cap passes into the detonator, which explodes the grenade.



Filled with Amatol.



Filled with Baratol



Filled with Lyddite.