



## **The use of weapons by Belarusian law enforcement agencies to disperse peaceful protests**

In Belarus, on August 9, 2020, the falsification of the presidential elections took place, it led to the start of mass protests throughout the republic, which continue to the present day. Law enforcement agencies in violation of Art. 29 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus of 17.07.2007 No. 263-3 "On the Internal Affairs Bodies of the Republic of Belarus" unlawfully used weapons to disperse peaceful protests.

### *For reference:*

*An employee of the internal affairs bodies has the right to use a weapon, that is, to fire a shot (s) from it, against a person:*

*committing an attack on an employee of the internal affairs bodies and (or) another citizen, when their life or health is endangered;*

*committing an attack as part of a group or an attack involving the use of weapons or explosions, arson and other generally dangerous methods, the use of vehicles, machines or mechanisms, against living quarters or other legal possessions of citizens, premises, other objects of organizations, military or service outfit of internal cases, against people or objects protected by internal affairs bodies;*

*committing an action directly aimed at the forcible seizure of weapons, ammunition, military and special equipment or special means in the possession of an employee of the internal affairs bodies;*

*taking or holding a person as a hostage;*

*caught while committing the actions specified in paragraphs from two to five of this part, and trying to escape when, in order to avoid detention, this person uses (threatens to use) a weapon, an explosive, an explosive device or other items that pose a danger to the life or health of an employee of internal affairs bodies or other citizens;*

*escaping from custody, convoy;*

*who does not obey the lawful demand of an employee of the internal affairs bodies, immediately surrender (put) a weapon, explosive, explosive device or*



*other items, the use of which may threaten the life or health of an employee of the internal affairs bodies or other citizens.*

*Committing by a person actions lawfully prohibited to him by an employee of the internal affairs bodies and expressed in an attempt to approach the employee of the internal affairs bodies closer than the specified distance, to get something from his clothes or carry-on luggage, or other actions that may be interpreted by an employee of the internal affairs bodies as a threat of use violence dangerous to the life or health of his or other citizens grants the employee of the internal affairs bodies the right to use weapons in accordance with this Law.*

*An employee of the internal affairs bodies has the right to use weapons, including firearms, and to use firearms also in other cases determined by the President of the Republic of Belarus.*

*An employee of the internal affairs bodies has the right to bring the weapon into readiness for firing if he believes that in the current situation the possibility of its use or use is not excluded.*

*It is prohibited to use weapons:*

*with a significant crowd of people, when unauthorized persons may suffer from this;*

*to the direction of warehouses (storages) containing flammable, explosive, and also potent toxic substances, and means of transporting these substances;*

*in relation to women, people with obvious signs of disability, minors, when their age is obvious or known, with the exception of cases when these people commit an armed or group attack or other actions that threaten the life or health of citizens.*

As a result of the unlawful use of weapons, citizens with bodily injuries of varying severity began to enter medical institutions. In Minsk alone, in the period from 9 to 22 August 2020, 1141 people with various bodily injuries applied for medical help, including 64 with mine-explosive wounds and 45 with gunshot wounds.

Pictures of injured citizens:



Diagnosis:

Explosive wound of the right thigh: gunshot fracture of the right femur in the middle third, extensive defect of soft tissues, quadriceps muscle of the right thigh.

*This photo was got by mail BYPOL*



Diagnosis:

Mine-explosive wound of the left foot: open comminuted fracture of the left calcaneus with displacement of fragments with a defect in bone and soft tissues. Fracture of the talus of the left foot without displacement of the fragments. 1-2 degree burns of both legs. Contused wounds of the right leg, abrasions.

*This photo was got by mail BYPOL*



**Diagnosis:**

Combined injury to the chest, abdomen, spine, limbs. Gunshot, blind, bullet, penetrating wound of the left half of the chest with damage to the left lung. Hemopneumothorax on the left. Left lung contusion. Gunshot blind bullet wound of the spine. Gunshot fracture of the spinous process L1. Closed abdominal trauma. Bruise, abrasion of the anterior abdominal wall on the left. Multiple bruises, abrasions of the left lower limb.

*This photo was got by mail **BYPOL***



**Diagnosis:**

Combined wound of the abdomen and limbs. Gunshot bullet blind penetrating wound of the abdomen with damage to the jejunum, greater omentum. A gunshot wound to the soft tissues of the lower leg of the left lower extremity.

*This photo was got by mail **BYPOL***



Diagnosis:  
Gunshot laceration of the left shoulder

*This photo was got from victim M.*



1.

2.

These three photos were got by mail  
BYPOL



3.

From the first days of the protests, citizens began to post photos of the remains of ammunition they found on the Internet. To establish their affiliation, we turned to the "Nomenclature of service weapons", which is in service with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, according to which there are the following weapons and ammunition that could presumably cause of mentioned bodily harm.

43-mm manual magazine grenade launcher GM-94  
made in Russia



It was developed at the Tula Instrument Design Bureau in the early 1990s. The main purpose of the new weapon was to provide fire support for infantry in



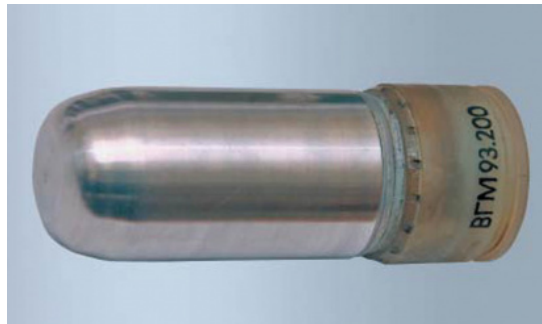
close combat conditions, especially in the city, as well as conduct special police operations, designed to defeat enemy forces in urban areas, basements, fortifications, terrain folds and in the mountains; defeat of lightly armored vehicles; creating smoke screens and fires.

The zone of destruction of enemy forces by a high-explosive effect (shock wave, high temperature) of a thermobaric charge has a radius of up to 3 meters, and the minimum (conditionally) safe firing distance is only 5 meters.

The ammunition to GM-94 used by the Ministry of Internal Affairs:

43-mm shot VGM93.200 with irritating effect, designed for non-lethal exposure to riot participants and offenders with an aerosol cloud of irritating substance of intolerable inhalation concentration.

The minimum safe range of application is -10 m. Not allowed: use in places where there is a gas leak, explosive and flammable substances and materials are stored; aimed shooting at a person.



43-mm shot VGM93.400 of light and sound action "Termit", designed to provide psychophysical and light and sound effects on offenders.

The minimum safe range of use is 10 m. Not allowed: aimed shooting at a person; application in places where there is a gas leak, explosive and highly flammable substances and materials are stored.





43-mm shot VGM93.600 of shock-shock action, designed to prevent illegal actions and disperse unauthorized clusters of offenders due to their physical neutralization with elastic shock elements.



40-mm hand grenade launcher RG-6  
made in Russia



It was developed in 1993 at Central Design Bureau for Sports and Hunting Weapons in Tula to arm the troops operating against illegal gangs in Chechnya.

The ammunition to RG-6 used by the Ministry of Internal Affairs:

The 40-mm annoying cassette shot "BK-R" is designed to provide an irritating effect on offenders when suppressing riots or carrying out special operations. It is used only in open areas. It is not allowed to use in places where there is a gas leak, explosive and easily flammable substances and materials are stored.

12 gauge single barrel shotgun Fabarm Brescia  
made in Italy

(pictured is one of the possible models)



Self-loading smoothbore carbine Saiga-12K (Tactics 1-6) 12 gauge  
(made in Russia)



Mossberg 590 A1 pump action shotgun 12 gauge  
(made in the USA)



Mossberg 12 gauge single barrel shotgun  
(pictured is one of the possible models)





Mawerik 12 gauge single-barreled shotgun



The following ammunition is used for firing from these rifles by the Ministry of Internal Affairs:

<p>12/70 cartridge with rubber bullet made in Russia by "Techkrim"</p>	
<p>12/70 round with two rubber bullets made in Russia by "Techkrim"</p>	
<p>12/70 cartridge with two rubber bullets "Barrier" AZOT made in Russia by "AZOT"</p>	



12/70 cartridge with rubber  
buckshot  
made in Russia by "Techkrim"



12/70 cartridge of sound (noise)  
action  
made in Russia by "Techkrim"



12/70 cartridge light and sound  
ONS 2000  
Polish production company  
Fam-Pionki





7.62 mm Kalashnikov assault rifle modernized folding





5.45 mm. Kalashnikov assault rifle of three modifications





Used by the Ministry of Internal Affairs ammunition for them:

<p>cartridge intermediate blank (noise) caliber 7.62x39</p>	
<p>cartridge 5.45 blank with a bullet simulator</p>	

18.5x55-mm pistol, barrelless PB-4-2 "Osa", made in Russia





The following ammunition is used for firing from a pistol by the Ministry of Internal Affairs:

18,5x55 cartridge of traumatic action		
18,5x55 cartridge of light and sound action		
18,5x60T traumatic cartridge	The same, only the sleeve is longer	
18.5x60SZ light and sound cartridge	The same, only the sleeve is longer	

The Interior Ministry is also armed with Russian, Ukrainian and Czech-made grenades.

Hand gas grenade "Cheryomukha-6 (M)", made in Russia



Designed to create an aerosol cloud of an irritating substance in open areas or in rooms during operations by special forces. The grenade is made in the form of a plastic container, weighing 80 - 90 g, 88 mm long, 34 mm in diameter, closed on both sides with screwed end caps of different diameters. A charge of chloroacetophenone and an igniter are placed in the body of the grenade.

Hand aerosol grenade "Dreyf" and "Dreyft-2" (made in Russia)



Designed for manual throwing in order to instantly create a cloud of an aerosol of an irritating substance - CN "Chloroacetophenone C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>COCH<sub>2</sub>Cl" gas in an open area. People are affected by irritation of the respiratory tract after 30-120 seconds with a duration of 5 to 30 minutes (cough, sore throat, mucus discharge through the nose), causing watery eyes, sharp pain and blurred vision. May cause blistering on skin contact. Ineffectively affects persons who are in a state of alcoholic or drug intoxication. Applicable only in open areas. It is thrown so that the distance from the point of its fall to the nearest person is at least 0.6 m.



Hand annoying grenade of increased power and safety RGR "Roulet-VV" (made in Russia)



Designed to suppress the psycho-volitional stability of offenders or enemy forces during special operations and in suppressing riots. The design of the grenade ensures its rotation during the formation of a cloud of irritant substance (CS), which prevents the possibility of its reverse throw.

Hand-held light and sound grenade "Zarya-2" and "Zarya-3" and multi-element hand-held light and sound grenade "Fakel" made in Russia



Designed to temporarily suppress the psycho-volitional stability of the offender by creating a sudden sound impact of up to 172 dB (sound over 172 dB



can cause hemorrhage, 190 dB and above - perforation of the eardrum) and flashes with brightness up to 60 million kJ. They are used in special operations to capture criminals, suppress riots, in the security alarm system, etc. The grenades are thrown (applied) so that the distance from the point of impact to the nearest person is at least 2.5 m.

Light and sound cassette hand grenade RGK-60SZ and combined action RGK-60KD, developed by the Federal Scientific and Practical Center "Research Institute of Applied Chemistry" Russia



SZ - is designed to provide light and sound effects on offenders during special operations and suppression of riots.

KD - is designed to provide light, sound and irritating effects on offenders when suppressing riots or carrying out special operations.

Hand grenade annoying GRR  
(made in Russia)





It is a smoking-type grenade, which is designed to suppress the psycho-volitional stability of offenders or enemy personnel during special operations and in suppressing mass riots.

60 mm hand-held aerosol grenade RGA-60Vz



It is intended for instant creation of an aerosol cloud of irritating substance during special operations and in suppression of riots.

Hand smoke grenade RDG-M  
Designed by "Federal Research and Production Center" Research Institute of  
Applied Chemistry " in Russia



Designed for instant setting of an impenetrable smoke screen, ensuring safe movement of personnel in open areas.



Hand grenade of combined action "Vyushka" made in Russia



Designed to provide the offender with a distracting and stunning light and sound effect and non-damaging mechanical impact with rubber buckshot. The warhead is set in motion by a standard remote-action fuse. The body of the grenade is made of polyethylene. Throwing rubber buckshot is carried out by a light and sound charge.

Hand aerosol grenade "Teren-6" and hand-held light and sound grenade "Teren-7M" produced by LLC NPP "Ecologist" of Ukraine



They are intended both for the suppression of illegal actions of individuals and for the elimination of riots. The first by exposure to the emitted tear aerosol with a light and sound effect, the second by temporary suppression of the psycho-volitional stability of offenders with the help of light and sound pulses of high intensity.

P-1 and ZV-6 hand-held light and sound grenades  
(made by the Czech company "ZEVETA AMMUNITION")



These weapons and ammunition are in service with various divisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. It is difficult to determine which types of weapons are available in which particular units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. However, we can definitely say that the OMON units have:

- Mossberg 590 A1 pump action shotgun 12 gauge
- Smooth-bore self-loading carbine Saiga-12K (Tactics 1-6) 12 gauge
- Mossberg 12 gauge single barrel shotgun with ammunition:
- 12/70 cartridge light and sound ONS 2000
- 12/70 cartridge with rubber buckshot
- 12/70 cartridge of sound (noise) action

These weapons and ammunition were mentioned in official documents concerning the dispersal of protest actions.

In addition to the specified weapons, some special units have other types of weapons.



So the units of the SOBR and the military unit 3214 of the internal troops, Alfa KGB, Almaz of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, OSAM of the State Border Committee have Benelli M4 Super 90 12x76 550mm gun:



to which, inter alia, the following ammunition is used:

<p>12 gauge STERLING non-lethal cartridge with rubber bullet</p> <p>Made in Turkey</p>		<p>Effective between 15 and 35 meters. There is a risk of death or injury below 10 meters.</p> <p><b>According to available information, this was the bullet that killed Alexander Taraikovsky on the 10 of August 2020</b></p>
<p>12/70 cartridge with rubber bullet</p> <p>company production D Dupleks Latvia</p>		

In the subdivisions of GUBOPiK, military unit 3214 of the internal troops, SPBT "Almaz" there is a pump-action shotgun Remington, made in the USA:



at the photo is one of the possible models



In October 2020, the head of the GUBOPiK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs Karpenkov N.N. announced the purchase in Russia of 100 traumatic pistols MP 353 "Yarygin" by order of the head of state for use against protesters, of which 50 pcs. distributed to GUBOPiK, 20 - to Almaz, 30 - to SOBR:



The special operations forces of the armed forces are also armed with IZH-81 12 caliber pump-action guns:





The special forces are armed with pistols of the Austrian-German company SIG SAUER:



Austrian-made GLOCK G17 pistols are available in GUBOPiK, OMON, special forces Almaz, Alpha, SOBR:



Pistol cartridges of 9x19mm caliber LUGER are used for firing from these pistols:

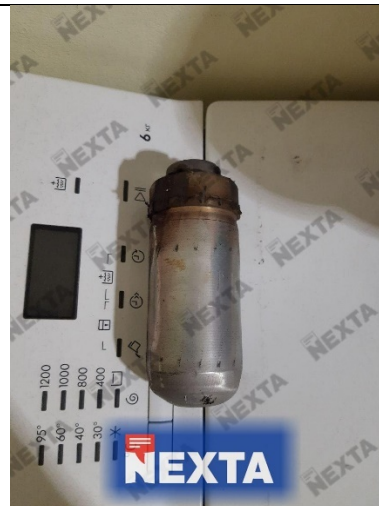


SOBR internal troops, GUBOPiK, Special Operations Forces of the armed forces are armed with Czech light and sound grenades and Russian "Zarya".

Having studied the above samples of weapons, we can make conclusions about the alleged belonging of the remnants of ammunition discovered by citizens in places of violent dispersal of mass events, since only an expert can make the exact ones.

Photos of the found remnants of ammunition and their presumptive identity:

43-mm shot VGM93.200 of irritating action for 43-mm hand-held magazine grenade launcher GM-94





12 gauge STERLING non-lethal cartridge with rubber bullet

Made in Turkey



P-1 hand-held light and sound grenade manufactured in the Czech Republic



sleeve of an intermediate blank (noise) cartridge of 7.62x39mm caliber for a 7.62mm Kalashnikov assault rifle

sleeve of an idle intermediate cartridge with a bullet imitating the caliber of 5.45x39mm to the 5.45mm Kalashnikov assault rifle

Spherical rubber bullet traumatic cartridge 12 gauge

grenade check

Presumably a traumatic 12 gauge rubber bullet made in Latvia





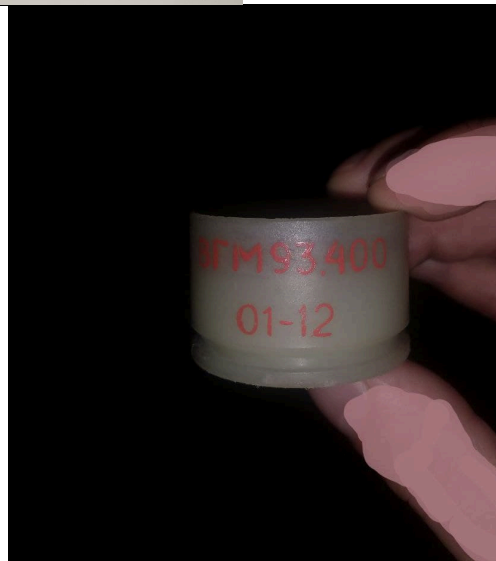
43-mm shot VGM93.600 shock action to the 43-mm hand-held magazine grenade launcher GM-94



Cartridge 12x70 with 2 rubber bullets «Barrier» Azot



43-mm shot VGM93.400 light and sound action "Termit" for 43-mm hand-held magazine grenade launcher GM-94





Presumably a light and sound cassette hand grenade RGK-60SZ or combined action RGK-60KD



Cartridge of caliber 12x70 sound (noise) action made in Russia



Pistol cartridge 9x19mm LUGER PPU, made in Serbia





Hand grenade of combined  
action "Vyushka" made in  
Russia

