The 1895 Nagant revolver

I wrote this article for the French gun magazine "Cibles". It was released in the issue n° 341 of February 2006.

At the end of the 19th century, the service handgun in the imperial Russian army is the Smith & Wesson n° 3 Russian in 44 caliber, adopted in 1871. Three models will follow one another. Its official career lasted almost 25 years and some officers kept their S&W after the adoption of the Nagant.
Emile and Henri Léon Nagant found the "Fabrique d'Armes Emile et Léon Nagant" (firearms factory) in 1859 in Liege (Belgium). They work under license for the US Remington Company, for the Belgian army and export revolvers and rifles in many countries.

Wishing to modernize its service handgun, Russia asks the Nagant brothers. Why? Because the Nagant already worked for the Russian army, in collaboration with Captain Sergei Ivanovich Mosin (later Colonel) to create the Mosin Nagant 1891 service rifle. Adopted in 1891 it replaced the single shot Berdan rifle model 1870.

The successor of the S&W is the revolver Nagant model 1895 in caliber 7.62x38R Nagant. This revolver is an historical witness of the first half of the 20th century.

Remark about the dates:
It is during the reign of Julius Cesar that the calendar which bears his name (Julian) is adopted: the 1st of January of the year 708 of the Rome foundation (45 BC according to our calendar). But the year as defined by the Julian calendar is longer of 11 minutes and 14 seconds when compared to the solar year. Sixteen centuries later this difference represents 10 days between the solar year and the Julian year.

In 1582, Spanish, Portuguese and Romans throw over the Julian calendar and adopt the Gregorian calendar. It is Pope Gregory XIII who sets up this calendar to correct the drawbacks of the Julian calendar. For these people, the day after October 4, 1582 was October 15, 1582.
France adopts the Gregorian calendar the 9th of December of the same year.

Other countries will follow in the following centuries. For Russia it was in 1918. It is the reason why, for all events which happened before this date, the Russian date does not match with the date of other European countries. The famous October revolution took place in November. Greece waited until 1923 to adopt the Gregorian calendar.

HISTORICAL JOURNEY

ALEXANDER III

Our trip begins with Alexander III who reigns on Russia from 1881 to 1894. After the Franco-Russian alliance (4th of January 1894) and the official visit in Paris of Alexander III, Russia was all the rage in France.

After Alexander III death, his successor is his son, Nicholas II. He will be the last of the Romanov. This dynasty was born the 21st of February 1613, with the election of Michel Romanov known as Michel 1st by the assembly of the Russian States General (the Zemsky Sobor). Nicholas pursues the policy of friendship with France of his father.

In 1895, the Nagant revolver is officially adopted by the Russian army. It is manufactured in Belgium. In 1899, the manufacturing license is sold to Russia and from then, the 1895 Nagant revolver is made in the Tula arsenal (Tuljskaja Gubernija) south of Moscow and in the Izhevsk arsenal (from 1943), until production ceased in 1945.
In 1896, the building of a new bridge begins in Paris (France). It is dedicated to Alexander III. Nicholas II lays down the first stone. This bridge is inaugurated in 1900 to celebrate the World Fair held this year. It is still one of the most beautiful bridges in Paris.

In France, many modest people subscribe to the Russian loans. Twenty years or so later, the value of these loans will be nil. The Bolshevik power will not recognize these loans emitted by the Tsar. It is not uncommon to find in the attics some of these loans once paid in gold and which the current value is only sentimental or historical.

**THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR**

The first important event the Nagant takes part is the war between Russia and Japan in 1904-1905. The origin of this war is the rivalry between Nicholas II, Tsar of Russia and Mutsuhito, Emperor of Japan. Both of them want to found a colonial empire in China.

Russians sign an alliance treaty with the Chinese in 1896, just after the war of 1894-1895 between China and Japan (lost by China). At the beginning of the 20th century, they occupy Manchuria and install a garrison in Port-Arthur on the peninsula of Liao-dong. This town was leased to the Russian by the Chinese in 1898.

The Japanese don’t agree and attack Port-Arthur without a declaration of war (they will get into the habit of doing so) the 8th of February 1904. The town is encircled and falls the 2nd of January 1905.

In February/March 1905, the Russian and Japanese armies clash at the battle of Mukden (now Shenyang in China). The Russians loose the battle. There are 156 000 killed (85 000 Russians and 71 000 Japanese).

Meanwhile, the Russian fleet of the Baltic, called in support, sails to the far-east. After an 8 months journey, it is destroyed by the fleet of admiral Togo, the 27 and 28 of May 1905, at the battle of the Tsushima strait, between Korea and Japan.

On September 5, 1905, Japan and Russia sign the Portsmouth treaty in the USA. After this defeat and the disastrous treaty it is forced to sign, imperial Russia is doomed.
THE 1905 REVOLUTION

This war and the economic collapse induce troubles in Russia. There are street fights in Moscow and Saint Petersburg, Russia’s capital at that time.

January 22, 1905 (January 9th according to the Julian calendar), is the infamous "red Sunday". 100,000 strikers demonstrate quietly in front of the Winter Palace in Saint Petersburg, to ask the Tsar reforms. The Tsar orders the army to open fire on the crowd. Hundreds of people are killed. It is the beginning of the 1905 revolution.

One of the important events of this revolution is the mutiny of the Potemkine battleship, on June 27, 1905.

In October, a "Soviet", a Council of workers deputies is founded in Saint Petersburg. A workers armed militia is created. It fights the Russian army.

But this revolution is no match for the Tsarist power. There is a bloody repression and the 1905 revolution fails, until the next one.

GRIGORI RASPOUTINE

Grigori Iefimovitch Rasputin is an illiterate monk. He is protected by the Tsarina Alexandra Fedorovna. He met her for first time in 1905. The great influence he has with the Tsarina and his dissolute living are not appreciated. He has many enemies.

In 1914, he urges the Tsar to avoid the conflict with Germany in opposition to the army. On August 1st, 1914, Germany declares war to Russia. At about the same time, Saint Petersburg (Sankt Petersburg, "city of Saint Peter" in German) becomes Petrograd.

While the Tsar is at the battle front, the Tsarina becomes regent. She is assisted by her councilor, Grigori Rasputin.

It is too much for some. Prince Youssoupooff, member of the imperial family, and some other dignitaries decide to assassinate Rasputin.

On December 16th, 1916, Youssoupooff invites Rasputin to a dinner at his home. An attempt to poison Rasputin with cyanide fails. Then Youssoupooff and two accomplices shoot Rasputin with their revolvers and throw his body in the Neva River.
THE FEBRUARY REVOLUTION
In March 1917 (February according to the Julian calendar), the restrictions, consequences of WW1 and winter, force the workers to strike and to demonstrate. On March 11, the army opens the fire on the crowd. There are tenth of people killed.

The day after however, solders and workers fraternize and found the Soviet (Council) of the workers and soldiers of Petrograd.

The socialist deputies of the Douma (the Assembly), leaded par Alexander Kerenski, rally the Soviet. On March 15, the Tsar abdicates.

During the following months, Russia is ruled by an unsetled but rather democratic power. But the Bolshevik extremists, leaded by Vladimir Ilitch Oulianov, alias Lenin, use violence in an attempt to take the power. Kerenski represses this attempt and Lenin must flee in Finland in June 1917.

THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION
Lenin is back in Russia in October 1917 to prepare the coup d'état which will give him the power. In the night of the 6 to the 7 of November 1917 (25th to 26th October according to the Julian calendar), the Bolsheviks take possession of the vital centers of Petrograd. Resistance is weak and there is no bloodshed.

Lenin implements his dictatorship. The press is silenced, the Tcheka is created, the strike is forbidden, and the Assembly is dissolved. Russians and some other just entered a dark era which would last for 70 years, but they did not know it yet. On December 15, 1917, Lenin signs the Brest-Litovsk truce with the Germans and the Austrians. Now unemployed German troops reinforce the west battle front, in France.

THE TCHEKA
Or VCK spelled Vetcheka for Vserossiïskaïa Tcherzvytchaïnaïa Kommissia: Pan-Russian extraordinary commission for the repression of the counter revolution and sabotage. It is created to fight all the government’s opponents: middle-classes, white officers, tsarists, Mensheviks (social democrats), SR (socialist revolutionaries), anarchists. It is located in Moscow, in the building called the Loubianka, where all the organizations succeeding to the Tcheka will stay. It is an infamous building where torture and executions were practiced in the basements. In 1917, the Tcheka counts 100 members. They are 283 000 in 1921.

The Loubianka

On December 7, 1922, the Tcheka is dissolved and becomes the GPU (Glavnoïe polititcheskoïe oupravlenie: Main political management). The GPU depends of the NKVD (Narodnyï Komissariat Vnoutrennykh Diel: Peoples commissary ship of internal affairs). In 1934 the NKVD absorbs the GPU.
There is another people’s commissary ship: the NKGB (Narodnyi kommissariat gosudarstvennoï bezopastnosti: Peoples commissary ship to the State security).

In 1946, the NKVD becomes the MVD (Ministerstvo Vnutrennikh Del: Home office) and in 1954 the NKGB becomes the KGB (Komitet Gosudarstvennoy Bezopasnosti: Security committee of State).

Nagant police/GPU model

EKATERINBURG
In this city, located 1 700 km (1 050 miles) east of Moscow, were murdered, on Lenin’s order, Nicholas II and all his family on July 17, 1918.

THE CIVIL WAR
Between 1918 and 1920, a civil war opposes the new revolutionary government "red" to some national groups known as "whites". The two parties are equally ferocious.

Whites are present on three battle fronts:
- South: the Russian volunteers and Cossacks army of the Don region of General Denikine.
- North-west: Loudenitch army.
- Occidental Siberia: admiral Koltchak army.

To face them there is the red army under command of Leon Bronstein, alias Trotsky. It counts one million men at the end of 1918. Two years later, it will be five millions.

Moscow becomes the capital of Russia.
At the end of 1920, the red army has annihilated the white coalition.

THE CRONSTADT SAILORS
Cronstadt is an important naval base of the Baltic, located on the Kostline Island in the Gulf of Finland, in front of Petrograd. On February 28, 1921, the sailors who supported the October revolution revolt against the Bolshevik dictatorship. A revolutionary committee takes the power.

Trotsky orders the army to assault the city. It falls and the repression is terrible.

THE NEP
After this rebellion, Lenin decides to ease his government practice and creates the New Economical Policy on March 12, 1921. This gives a little economical liberty to the farmers, shopkeepers and contractors.

On December 30, 1922, Russia becomes the USSR.

Lenin dies the 21st of January, 1924. For Russia, the four centuries of Romanov rule were not a pleasure party and the Bolshevik repression and counter terror of the white armies were bloody. But the worse had to come with Lenin’s successor, Iossif Vissarionovitch Djougachvili, alias Stalin, literally “the man of steel”.
One of the NEP's consequences is the emergence of a middle class favorable to democracy. The soviet communist party feels threaten and Stalin stops the NEP in 1928. The agriculture is nationalized. Two millions of kulaks (farmer being comfortably off) finish in the gulags.

THE TOKAREV
In 1923, the soviet authorities are looking for a semi automatic pistol and begin to make tests. But it is only in 1930 that a pistol designed by Tokarev, the TT30 (Tula Tokarev) is adopted. After some modifications, it becomes the TT33 in 1933. It is chambered for the 7.62 Tokarev, patterned after the 7.63 Mauser.
The Nagant is always in production.

THE GERMAN-SOVIET PACT
On August 23, 1939, the foreign ministers of Germany and USSR, Joachim Von Ribbentrop and Vyacheslav Molotov, sign a non aggression pact of ten years duration between their respective countries.
Just after, Germany invades Poland, triggering WWII, while the USSR attacks Finland.

On June 22, 1941, it is the Barbarossa operation. The wehrmacht invades the USSR.

We know what followed.

I hope you were interested in this general view of the history of Russia and may be it gave you the desire to know more by yourself. The present is better understood at the light of the past.

TECHNICAL JOURNEY
The revolver presented here was made in Tula in 1930.

OPERATION
The Nagant is a 7 shots revolver (rather unusual at the time) with a fixed cylinder and it is loaded through a lateral gate. Unloading is made through an extractor/ejector rod without spring.

In the tsarist army, the revolvers equipping the privates were single action. Only officers have double action revolvers. After the revolution, all revolvers were manufactured double action and the single actions in stock were transformed.

The Nagant is the only revolver (with its predecessor the Pieper) to provide a gas seal to the gap between cylinder and barrel.
The front of the cylinder is milled to almost enclose the rear of the barrel. The case, into which the bullet is completely inserted measures the cylinder length and seals the small gap left. You can see that on the following photographs of the cylinder loaded with wadcutters and half jacketed bullets.

When cocking the hammer, in single or double action, the cylinder begins to rotate. After 1/7 of a turn, the rotation is stopped and the cylinder moves forward until the front part almost encloses the rear of the barrel. The first millimeter (0.04”) or so of the case engages into the barrel and seals the gap. The cylinder is equipped with a spring loaded sleeve making possible its forward motion. This disposition ensures the perfect alignment of the chamber with the barrel. If not, it is not possible to cock the hammer.

At the same time, to compensate the increase of the headspace at the rear of the cylinder, a recoil plate moves forward the head of the case. With rims of the correct thickness there is virtually no headspace on fire. When shot, this revolver acts like a single shot pistol and fouling is nil.

The long striker is necessary to reach the primer through the recoil plate.

This relatively complicated kinematic is implemented through a small number of parts. The mechanism is composed of 8 main parts, two springs, one pin and one screw.

In regard to a conventional system, the muzzle velocity gain is of 30 m/s (almost 100 fps). This is not an unfounded affirmation. I made comparison tests with a chronograph between cartridges loaded in cases of the good length and other ones loaded in shortened cases which do not seal the cylinder/barrel gap. When shooting in the dark, it is visible that the seal is effective. There is only a muzzle flash. Not even a spark gets out from the cylinder/barrel gap. This particularity makes the use of a silencer on the Nagant very effective unlike when used on conventional revolvers. The Russians equipped the Nagant with the Bramit silencer, from the name of its inventors, the Mitin brothers (BRAtya MITiny). The silencer was fitted on the revolver through a socket system locked on the front sight.

The rifling has four right handed grooves. The chambers are strongly tapered. They are perfectly polished. They knew their job in 1930 in Tula.
One of the major drawbacks of the Nagant is the weight of the trigger pull. On this revolver it is 4.2 kg (almost 9 pounds) in single action. I did not measure the double action but of course, it is a lot more.

The rear sight is a groove milled in the frame and the front sight is on a dovetail.

MARKS
Remark: the Tula arsenal used different marks along the production of the Nagant. Marks here described are these of a revolver from a specific run of production. They are not alike marks from runs of production made before or after.

The serial number is on the left side of the frame, on the front side of the cylinder (one digit between each chamber exit) and inside the side plate. Always on the left side, over the left grip, there are the marks used by Tula: an arrow pointing up inside a five branches star. This mark was used from 1928 to 1943. The manufacturing year is under the star. On the photograph, a small star is visible on the hammer. It is too a mark used by Tula. This star is present on all the parts.
Another mark used by Tula is a small hammer which looks like the letter "T". The double action fly is the only part with this mark (photo D1). This mark was used by Tula before 1928. From 1928 it is the star which is used. This revolver of 1930 should have a part made two years before? Spare part in stock? We will never know.

On the right side of the frame, over the front part of the trigger guard, there is the Russian proof mark (a circled "K") and the mark of the government's inspector.

Apart the Russian marks, there are two German proof marks from the proof house of Munich (enforced from 1968), and the caliber under the barrel and on the rear side of the cylinder.

![German proof marks](image)

**DISASSEMBLING**
The Nagant can be taken apart with only a screwdriver.

First, verify that the revolver is unloaded.

The extractor/ejector rod is retained in a sleeve which swivels around the barrel. Rotate the rod to the left (gun seen from the front) and pull it. Rotate the sleeve to the left (gun seen from the front). There are marks on the sleeve and on the frame corresponding to the positions open/closed. When the rod is in the open position, it can be used to extract the cases.

Extract the cylinder pin by pulling it.
Open the loading gate and extract the cylinder from the right side. It is possible to take apart its spring loaded sleeve. Turn the sleeve to make its stop pin to align with the corresponding groove. The location of the stop pin is marked by a dent in front of the sleeve (on the following photograph).

Unscrew the side plate screw located over the right grip. The left side plate supporting the other grip is freed. Lift it to reach the mechanism. If the side plate is stuck, screw the side plate screw some turns and strike it lightly with a nylon mallet. The plate should give.

DISASSEMBLING OF THE MECHANISM (photos D1 to D4):
Cock the hammer. Below the rear of the hammer, there is a recessed threaded hole. Screw in the side plate screw.

Pull the trigger and release the hammer. The main spring is held by the screw. Pull the trigger halfway. It is now possible to pull the hammer from its pin. It may be necessary to impart it a back and forth motion if the fit is tight.

Release the trigger once the hammer out. The main spring is held by the screw and by the trigger guard. Take out the hand by first pulling it backwards from the frame and then lifting it from the trigger. Pull out the trigger.

Hold the gun in the palm of the hand and retain the trigger guard. Unscrew the trigger guard screw. Once the screw unscrewed halfway, the trigger guard swivels downward under the pressure of the main spring. Pull out the trigger guard from its pin. Pull out the mainspring. If you cannot free it, unscrew the side plate screw and impart the spring pin a back and forth motion.

Pull out the hammer block from the bottom and the recoil plate by swiveling it backwards and pulling it from its pin. The hammer block moves in a groove milled in the frame. It is designed to support the recoil plate when the revolver is fired.

Pull apart the grips and verify that there is no rust under.

The loading gate and spring may be taken apart by unscrewing their screws. Idem for the extractor/ejector rod.

Reverse the procedure to reassemble the revolver.
Don't forget to place the hammer block and the recoil plate. Using a Nagant without these parts will lead to an accident due to excessive headspace (the head of the case in not supported).
Warning: when reassembling the trigger, engage the small tail at the rear in the milling at the bottom of the hammer block. (photo D4).

Once all parts set, cock the hammer before unscrewing the side plate screw.
Parts list:

1 Barrel
2 Cylinder
3 Cylinder Pin
4 Cylinder Pin Sleeve
5 Cylinder Pin Spring
6 Double Action Fly
7 D/A Fly Screw
8 D/A Fly Spring
9 Ejector Rod
10 Ej Rod Sleeve
11 Ej Rod Spring Stop
12 Ej Rod Screw
13 Firing Pin
14 Firing Pin Pivot Pin
15 Frame
16 Grip Set (3 Pieces) Bakelit
17 Grip Insert Screw
21 Grip Panel Screw
22 Hammer Stripped
22A Hammer Complete
23 Hammer Block
AMMUNITIONS:
The 7.62x38R Nagant is peculiar. To provide a gas seal the case is as long as the cylinder and the bullet is completely inserted into it.
The original cartridge propels a 93 grains bullet at about 330 m/s (1 083 fps).
Only Fiocchi manufactures this cartridge now. It is very lightly loaded (they don't take a chance). The 93 grains bullet is of 30 caliber and exits at 180 m/s (590 fps).
The nominal caliber is 7.62 mm. If this is the land dimension, it is a 30 caliber. There are many different standpoints about the real caliber of the Nagant. Some say it is a 30 and others a 32. I made a cast of the barrel and chambers with Cerrosafe®. On the tested revolver, the groove diameter is 0.314". It is a 32. The chamber's exit has the necessary diameter to accept a 32 bullet plus the thickness of the case.
The Nagant is known to be accurate. It is true. From a bench, with good reloads, the 7 bullets of a cylinder keep inside a 100 mm (4") circle and sometimes inside 50 mm (2") at 25 meters
It is possible to shoot 32 S&W Long cartridges in the Nagant but the cases swell and the fouling is terrible.

I would not either recommend to use the 32 H&R Magnum. The drawbacks are the same and the working pressure exceeds the working pressure of the Nagant original cartridge. Forget it.
RELOADING

A 7.62 Nagant 3 dies set is necessary. Mine is an RCBS with a shell holder n°1.

The three dies are:

- A full length sizer with decapping pin.
- A neck sizer (30 caliber with this RCBS).
- A bullet seater/crimper. It is tapered like the full length sizer. The crimp is not a conventional one. When you “crimp” with this die, you resize the case to its tapered shape after the belling of the mouth and the seating of the bullet. It is not possible to seat the bullet and “crimp” with one stroke because the seating plug is inside the case when seating the bullet. First, set the die to seat the bullet. Then, take out the bullet seating plug and “crimp”.

Excepted Fiocchi, who sells only loaded cartridges and no empty cases, nobody sells cases with the good dimensions (I will not speak of Russian and Chinese surplus ammunitions which are sometimes imported by some gun-dealers). There are the US Graf cases (made in Mexico) but they are too short to seal the gap and the diameter at the head of the case is slightly too large and it is necessary to reduce this part a little to get a perfect chambering. But they are usable. It is also possible to form 32-20 WCF cases. But the rim needs to be thinned and they are too short to seal.

The solution is to make the cases. Only two cases are suitable: the 357 Maximum and the 5.6x50 R Magnum. It is rather tricky but it is worth the work.

Dimensions of the Nagant case taken on a manufactured round:

- Rim: diameter 9.70 mm (0.382”), thickness 1.20 mm (0.047).
- Head diameter: 9.07 mm (0.357”).
- Diameter at the middle of the case: 8.51 mm (0.335”).
- Neck diameter (case not crimped): 8.55 mm (0.337”).
- Case length: 38.5 mm (1.516”).
Forming procedure:

- Full length size the 357 Maximum (Super Mag) or 5.6x50R cases with the full length Nagant die. Warning: a rather powerful press is needed and the resizing must be done in four separate strokes, quarter of the length by quarter of the length. Lubricating is necessary but just enough to resize comfortably. A little too much and the case is dented.
- On a lathe:
  - reduce the head diameter to 9.07 mm (0.357”).
  - Reduce the rim diameter to 9.9 mm (0.389”). It is a little more than on the Fiocchi cases but it allows a better grip of the case holder.
  - Reduce the thickness of the rim to 1.20 mm (0.047”). Always reduce from the top, never from the bottom. This would reduce the depth of the primer pocket.
  - Slightly reduce the body of the case, giving it a tapered shape. This can be done on the lathe with a small denture file, the finish being done with fine abrasive paper. Use the cylinder as a gauge to evaluate the quantity of metal to remove.
  - Cut to length. On this revolver, 38 mm (1.496”) are enough to provide a seal.

After this work, cut some cases in half lengthwise to verify that the thickness of the walls is enough to ensure security. There should be no problem since these cases are thick and the working pressure of the cartridge is low. But it is better to be safe than sorry. Anyway, this kind of transformation is at everybody’s own risks because only the person doing the work can verify its quality.

The details of the forming procedure are on the photography here after:

1. 357 Maximum case.
2. First sizing stroke (1/4 way).
3. Second sizing stroke (half way).
4. Third sizing stroke (3/4 way).
5. Fourth sizing stroke. The die stops on the head (solid part) of the case.
6. The head and the rim are lathe reduced.
7. Finished case after tapering of the body and cut to length as described.
8. Dented case during the fourth sizing stroke because too much lubricant was used.

Reloading of the formed cases:

32 (0.314”) bullets can be used with these cases. They are strong enough to withstand the neck sizing in 32 caliber without collapsing.

Dies needed:

- A 7.62 Nagant die set.
- A 32 S&W Long die set with a wadcutter bullet seating plug.
Procedure:
- Full size with the Nagant die.
- Neck size with the .308” Nagant die.
- Verify the case length and trim to length if necessary.
- Neck size and bell the mouth with the S&W die.
- Prime.
- Load the powder.
- Seat the bullet with the S&W die.
- "Crimp" with the Nagant die.

Suitable bullets:
All kinds of 32 caliber bullets between 85 and 100 grains.

Fiocchi’s cases are not suitable for reloading. They are too thin and too soft. They don’t withstand neck sizing with a 32 caliber die (they collapse). I tried some reloads with .308” bullets but they proved not to be satisfactory.

According to manufacturer’s reloading tables, the suitable powders for reloading the Nagant cartridge are:
Nobel:
- Vectan BA10.
- Vectan As.
- Vectan A1.
- Vectan A0.
- Vectan BA9.

Vihtavuori:
- N310.
- N320.
- N330.

No reloading data are available. Tables for the 32 S&W Long may serve as a basis, beginning carefully under the starting loads and working up the load with the assistance of a chronograph and looking for pressure signs. The 7.62 Nagant and the 32 S&W Long are very close, working pressure and case capacity wise.

Keep in mind that cases made from the 357 Maximum or the 5.6x50R are thicker than original Nagant cases. This means less internal capacity and more pressure with the same load.

I choose not to reproduce here the reloads I mentioned (with the usual warnings) in the magazine "Cibles".

Photographs of cartridges from left to right:
- Chinese match cartridge (made for the Russians), wadcutter bullet.
- Fiocchi manufactured cartridge, 93 grains FMJ bullet, .308” caliber.
- Handload, Fiocchi case, 100 grains SJ Hornady bullet, .308” caliber.
- Handload, Fiocchi case, 110 grains FMJ Hornady bullet, .308” caliber.
- Handload, case from 357 Maximum, 90 grains HJHP Sierra bullet, .312” caliber.
- Handload, case from 357 Maximum, 100 grains XTP Hornady bullet, .312” caliber.
Handload, case from 357 Maximum, 95 grains lead wadcutter HB Balleurope bullet, .314” caliber.

With the service holster, the cleaning rod and the 2 types of lanyards.

To finish, some pictures from an instruction manual showing how to use the Nagant while riding a horse and with the lanyard. I got these pictures from the excellent Njanear’s web site on the subject: [http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/Bunker/4064/PersCollection/M1895page.html](http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/Bunker/4064/PersCollection/M1895page.html). To find these pictures, follow the link “Know your M1895”.

JPB