**Weapon Identification Sheet** Simonov SKS (& close derivatives)

# Simonov SKS (& close derivatives)

■ TYPE: RIFLE ■ ALSO REFERRED TO AS: SKS, SIMONOV



## **Technical Information**

#### Calibre

7.62 x 39 mm M1943

# Length

1023 mm

# Weight (unloaded)

3.8 kg

### **Barrel length**

524 mm

#### Feed device

10-round internal box magazine Sighting systems:

#### Sighting systems

Fore: Post

Rear: Tangent, notch

#### Operating system

Gas, self-loading

### Muzzle velocity

735 m/s

#### Accessories

Folding bayonet

The SKS was developed in the Soviet Union during the Second World War. It is a gas-operated, self-loading rifle. The weapon's most distinctive features are the tubular appearance of the receiver, which ends abruptly at the neck of the stock, and a folding bayonet, which is permanently attached to the barrel.

PROBABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION		
Region	State forces	Non-state/illicit
Western Europe	0	0
Eastern Europe	•	0
Middle East & North Africa	•	•
Sub-Saharan Africa	•	•
Central Asia	•	•
South Asia	•	•
East Asia	•	•
Pacific	0	0
North America	0	0
Central America	•	•
South America	0	•

● Expect regular use ▶ Expect occasional use ○ Do not expect use

# Variants and their distinguishing features

# VARIANTS (Model/manufacturer)

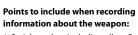
- SKS; Russia
- Type 56 'carbine'; China
- Type 63; China
- Type 63; North Korea
- M59/66; Yugoslavia (Serbia)

The Chinese Type 63 is not exactly a derivative of the SKS, but the weapon is sufficiently similar in appearance to include it in this Weapons ID Sheet. North Korean Type 68 rifles are distinguishable from Chinese Type 56 versions because they are stamped with a proof mark featuring a fivepointed star in a circle.

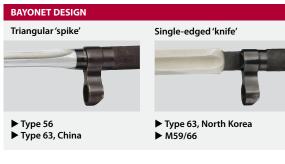
# **BARREL DESIGN** Grenade-launching muzzle No grenade launcher ► M59/66 ► All other models







- 1. Serial number, including all prefix and suffix characters
- 2. Characters adjacent to fire selector
- 3. Any other engraved/stamped information on weapon



Compiled by the Small Arms Survey with the technical assistance of the National Firearms Centre, Royal Armouries, United Kingdom. For further information or if you have identification queries, contact weaponsID@smallarmssurvey.org or call: +41 22 908 5777. This identification sheet may be downloaded in printable PDF format at www.smallarmssurvey.org/weaponsID

Make a full and informed appraisal of the local security situation before conducting any research related to small arms and light weapons.

