

INVESTMENT GRADE ACQUISITION

M60

SERIAL NO: 11836976



ITEM TITLE: Saco-Lowell M60 General Purpose Machine Gun

Serial No. 11836976

MANUFACTURER: Saco-Lowell Shops, U.S.

MODEL: M60

CALIBRE: 7.62x51mm NATO



HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE & TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

This exceptional Saco-Lowell M60 represents a significant piece of New Zealand's military heritage, directly linked to the nation's preparations during the Vietnam War era. While the NZDF also utilized the L7 GPMG (FN MAG variant), the American M60 served as the primary general-purpose machine gun for deployed NZDF infantry units in Vietnam, principally for logistical compatibility and essential interoperability with major ANZUS allies (United States and Australia) who relied heavily upon the platform. Supplied by the U.S. under established defence agreements, the M60 ensured standardized firepower during combined operations in Southeast Asia.

This specific M60, however, saw service primarily within New Zealand, evidenced by markings on its original transit crate linking it directly to the 1 Base Ordnance Depot at Trentham Military Camp ("**1 BOD. TRENTHAM.**") – the NZDF's central logistics and training facility during that period. Its remarkable state of preservation strongly indicates a life dedicated to training personnel rather than enduring the rigours of combat deployment, offering a rare, tangible connection to NZDF's Vietnam-era readiness. The M60 is presented in its classic configuration, featuring the ribbed, quick-change barrel with perforated heat shield, integral folding bipod, carrying handle, and durable synthetic pistol grip

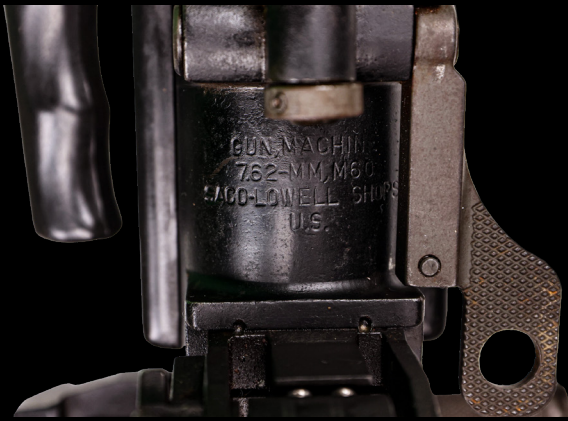


Pte Alan Sherris" (NZDF)



ANZAC Interoperability (1968)





7.62 MM



MOUNT, TRIPOD 7.62 MM MGL5A1

CONDITION REPORT

The firearm presents in exceptional original condition, retaining near-excellent factory matte black finish throughout. Manufacturer and serial number markings are crisp and correct. Only minor handling marks and light scuffs, consistent with very limited training use and careful storage, are visible. Composite furnishings are excellent. The bore is graded as excellent, bright and sharp. Mechanics are crisp. The accompanying MGL5 A1 tripod remains in very good original condition with clear markings and functional mechanisms, showing only light storage wear and minor oxidation appropriate for its age. All accessories are similarly well-preserved, ranging from excellent to very good original condition, contributing significantly to the ensemble's integrity and historical value.



THIS COMPREHENSIVE ENSEMBLE INCLUDES:

- M60 Machine Gun (Serial No. 11836976)
- Spare Barrel (Excellent condition, in protective cover)
- MGL5 A1 Tripod (Dated 1968, British/Commonwealth GPMG mount, very good condition with clear markings)
- Original Wooden Transit Crate (Marked "1 BOD. TRENTHAM.", "23.25 LBS", structurally sound with intact padding)
- Original Internal Documentation (The interior crate lid retains its original, fully legible "Packaging & Stowage Instructions" decal)
- Canvas Spare Barrel Bag ("CARRYING CASE, BARREL, 7.62MM, M60, U.S.", excellent condition)
- Original Asbestos Barrel Mitts (Intact, showing light age)
- Fabric Barrel Heat Shield (Excellent condition)



INVESTMENT SUMMARY

A truly rare and comprehensive investment-grade Grouping, this ex-NZDF M60 stands apart due to its exceptional, minimally-used condition, verified provenance linking it to Trentham Camp during the Vietnam era, and its unique status as the hand-picked best example from NZDF disposal. It represents a superb opportunity for the discerning collector or investor seeking a historically significant, complete, and exceptionally preserved example of this iconic Cold War machine gun.



INQUIRIES

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Viewing by Appointment Only (endorsement holders)