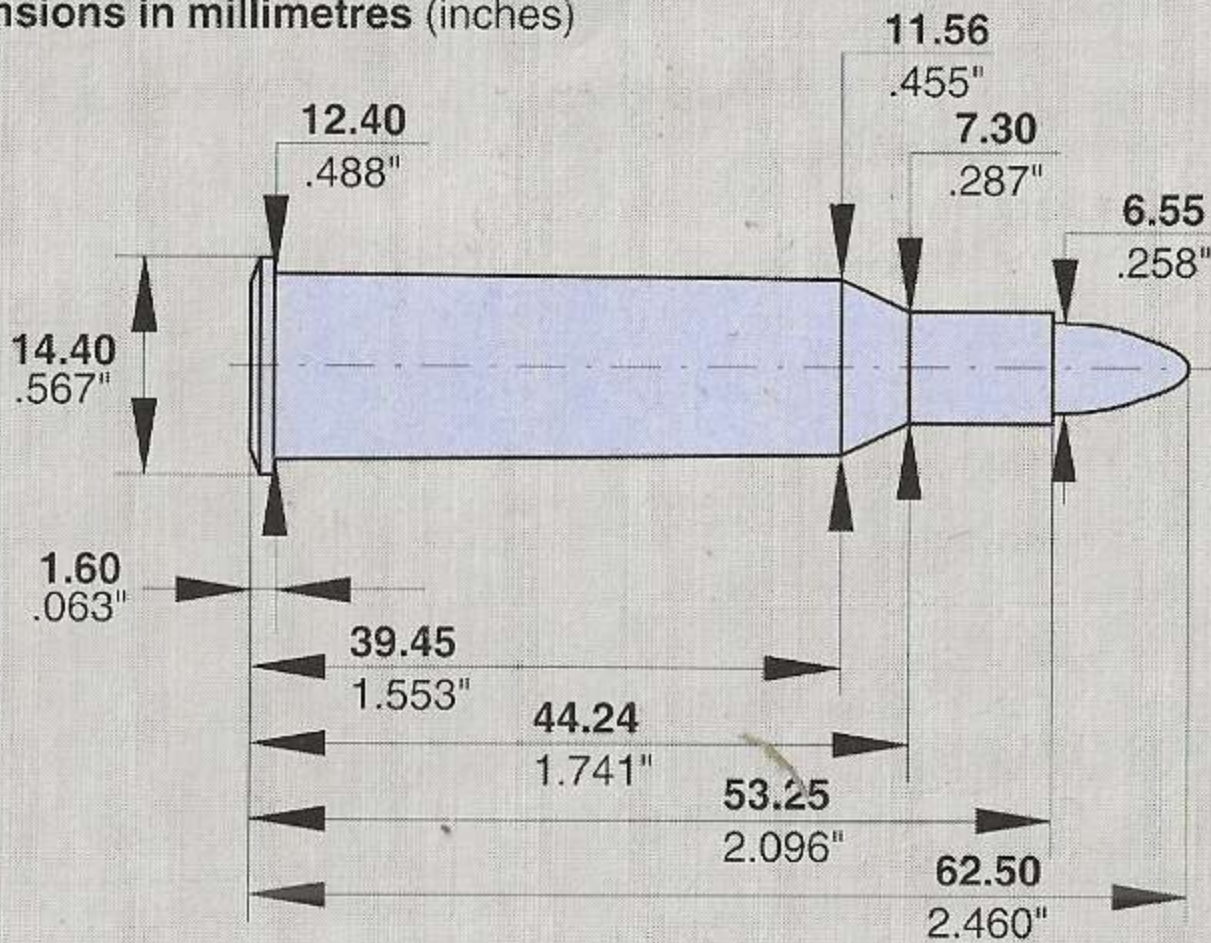


6.3 x 53R Finnish

Dimensions in millimetres (inches)



NOTE:

This cartridge is not supported by CIP or by SAAMI. The dimensions shown here have been measured from cartridges and therefore do not represent rifle chambers accurately. For the same reason no pressure data is given here.

Country of origin:	Finland
Year of introduction:	1940's
Primer:	Large Rifle
Bullet diameter:	6.55 mm (.258")
Cartridge length:	62.50 mm (2.460")
Shell length:	53.25 mm (2.096"), trim to 53.10 mm (2.090")
Max. pressure:	See note!

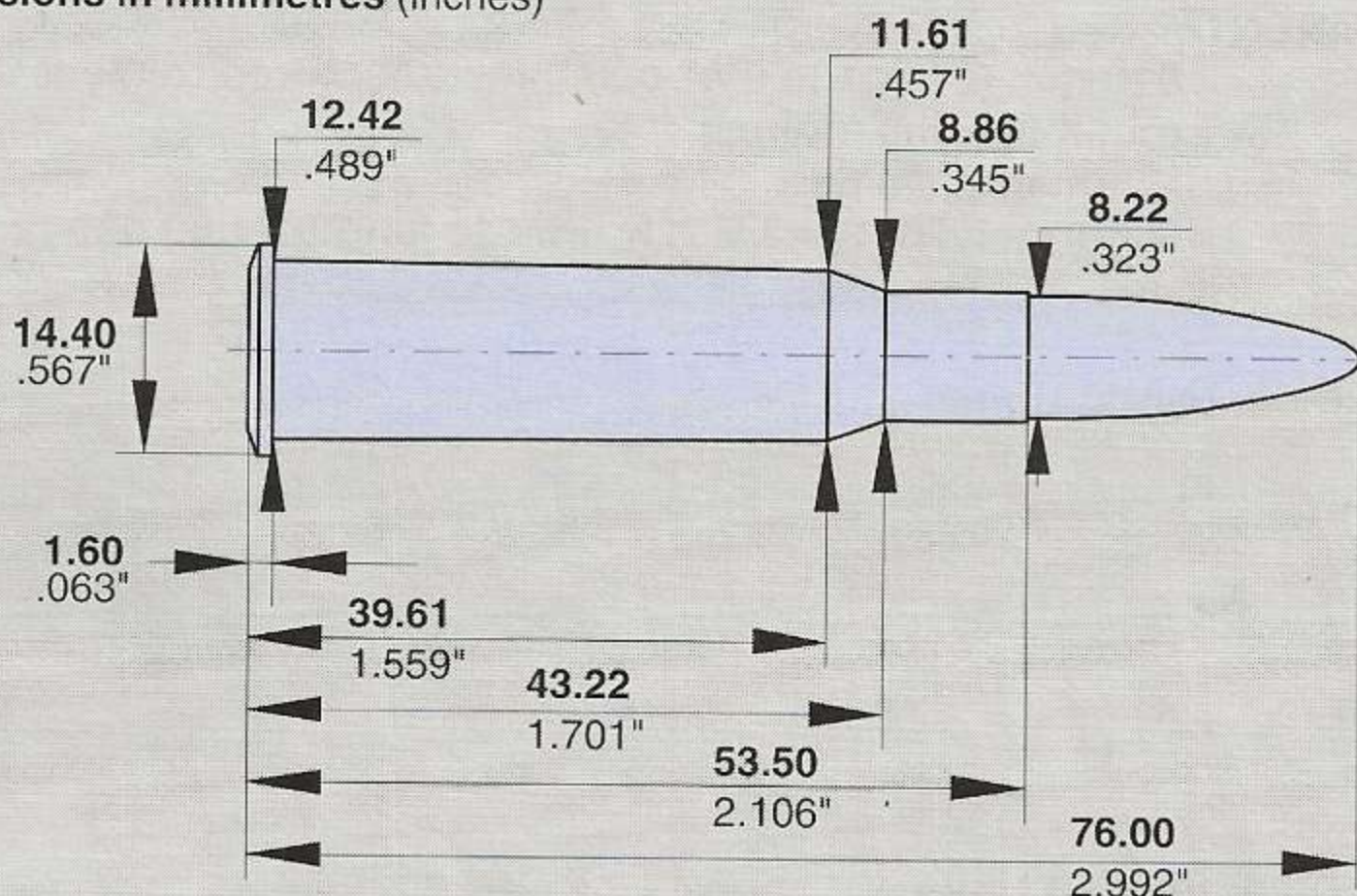
In Chapter 8.2 x 53R Finnish (q.v.) we explain the birth of this Finnish native round.

8.2 mm bullet is an overkill for Finnish game birds like black grouse and capercaillie, still plentifully found in the woods of Finland in the late 1940's. So the decision was made to adapt the military round 7.62 x 53R into 6,3 mm (.25 caliber) bullet by necking down the case mouth. Sako was already manufacturing this caliber bullets for the American market for .25-20, .25-35 etc.

The result was a very potent cartridge which has a lot of case volume for the bore. A hot reload could, by wrong bullet choice or powder charge, result in minced meat or broken rifle. Or both. Perhaps because of some unproductive experiments of this kind, 6.3 x 53R had to yield to .222 Rem. which was introduced in Finland in the early 1950's. It took wind quickly in Finland because Sako was already chambering rifles in .222 Rem. for the United States.

8.2 x 53R Finnish

Dimensions in millimetres (inches)



This cartridge is not supported by CIP or by SAAMI. The dimensions shown here have been measured from cartridges and therefore do not represent rifle chambers accurately. For the same reason no pressure data is given here.

Country of origin:	Finland
Year of introduction:	1940's
Primer:	Large Rifle
Bullet diameter:	8.22 mm (.323")
Cartridge length:	76.00 (2.992")
Shell length:	53.50 (2.106"), trim to 53.30 mm (2.096")
Max. pressure:	See note!

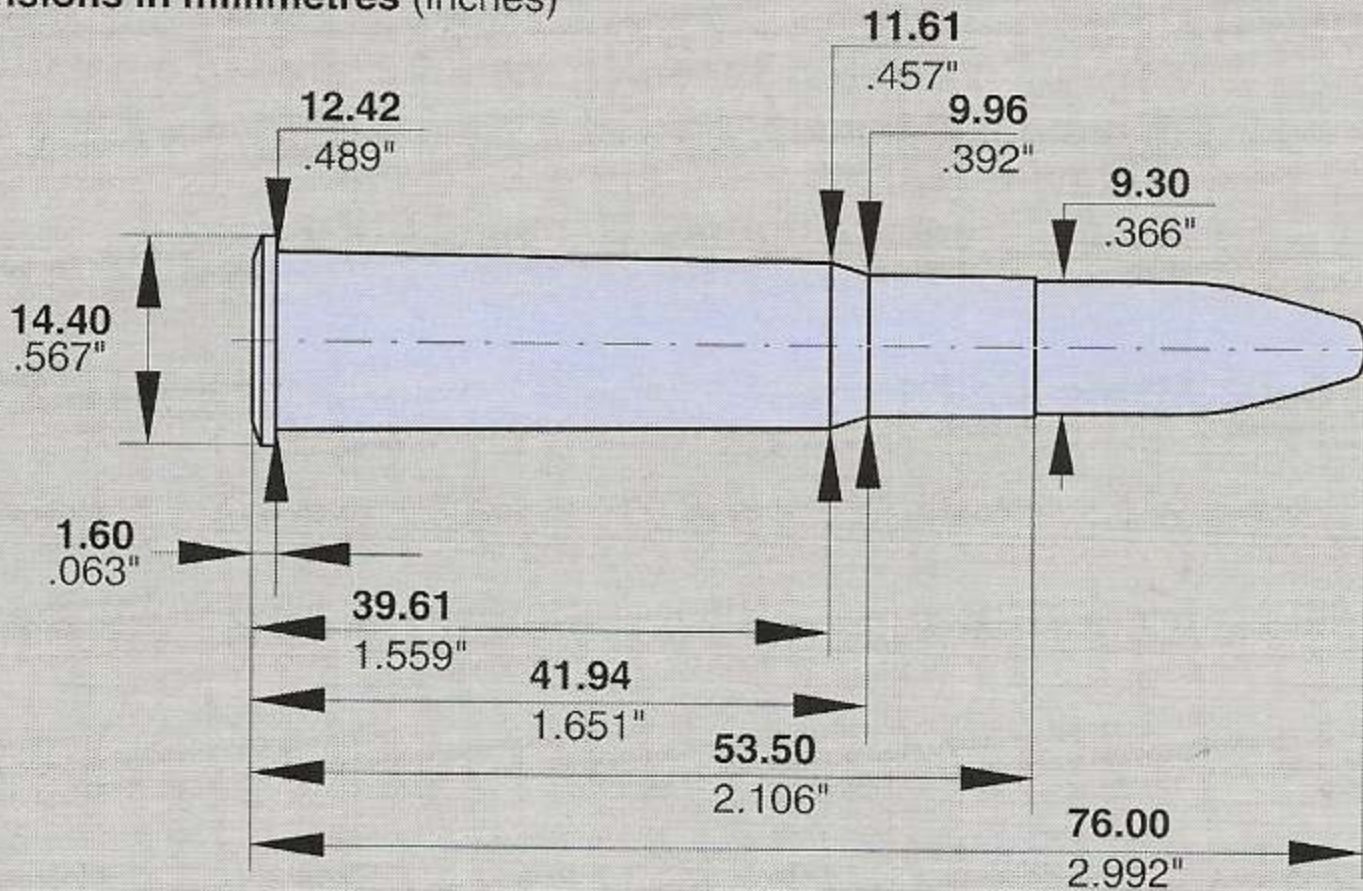
There was a period after WW II in Finland when big game hunting required by law a minimum bullet diameter of 8 mm.

Surplus Mauser bullets of 8.2 mm (.323") were readily available. Likewise Finnish attics were full of - how shall I put it - "confiscated merchandise" after the Russo-Finnish winter and continuation wars of 1939-1944. This merchandise comprised venerable Mosin-Nagant M1891 bolt-action rifles and countless derivatives of the same.

The logical thing to do was to give the not-so-legal war souvenir to a gunsmith and have him open up the barrel and chamber to accept the 8.2 mm Mauser bullet, but otherwise maintain the 7.62 x 53R (7.62 Russian) chamber dimensions. Cases were formed from military surplus 7.62 x 53R, also readily available. The rifle was sporterized by chopping the barrel and working the stockwood and - hey presto! - a legal big game hunting sporter rifle was born. To get the rifle licensed the gunsmith needed to certify that "it was built from junk parts". One gunsmith alone, Aarre Viitanen of Kauhajoki, Finland, converted thousand of rifles.

9.3 x 53R Finnish

Dimensions in millimetres (inches)



NOTE:

This cartridge is not supported by CIP or by SAAMI. The dimensions shown here have been measured from cartridges and therefore do not represent rifle chambers accurately. For the same reason no pressure data is given here.

Country of origin:	Finland
Year of introduction:	1940's
Primer:	Large Rifle
Bullet diameter:	9.30 mm (.366")
Cartridge length:	76.00 mm (2.992")
Shell length:	53.50 mm (2.106"), trim to 53.30 mm (2.096")
Max. pressure:	See note!

In Chapter 8.2 x 53R Finnish (q.v.) the birth of this curio Finnish native round was explained.

When moose hunting raised its head in Finland in the late 1950's, some hunters felt that they could use a little more horsepower than what could be milked from the 8.2 mm (.323") 13 gram (200 grain) Mauser bullet. The next step up was 9.3 mm (.366"), a Teutonic speciality used in a dozen central-European cartridges like 9.3 x 62 Mauser and 9.3 x 64 Brenneke.

The simple medicine was to open up 7.62 x 53R mouth to accept a 9.3 mm bullet. The standard bullet weight back then was around 16.5 gram (255 grain), so the improvement percentagewise was tremendous. So was the recoil, I remember my late father saying, who hunted moose with a sporterized M1891 Mosin-Nagant in this very caliber.

This caliber is good for big game, but nobody makes modern rifles. The above mentioned Mauser and Brenneke rounds by far more common.