



**WEAPONS OF WAR
IN THE 1700's**

THE MUSKET

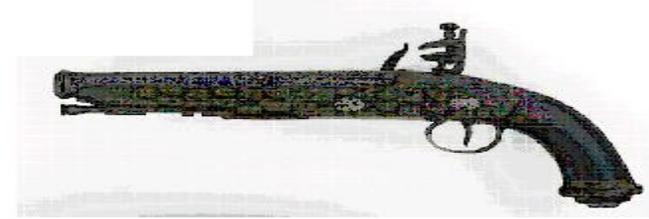
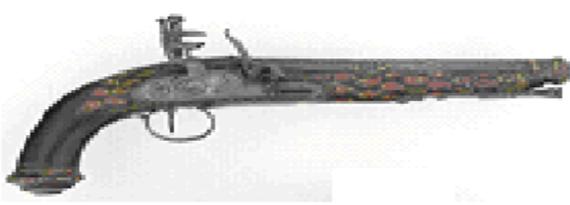


The musket was the main weapon for foot soldiers in the Napoleonic wars. The musket was slow and difficult to load. It took about thirty seconds, depending on the soldier, to load the gun. If a soldier was lucky, he would be able to fire off a maximum of three shots in one minute.

These muskets were muzzle loading weapons, meaning the bullet and powder were poured into the barrel. They were then rammed down further with a ramrod. When the trigger was pulled, a flint would spark through a small hole causing the gun powder to explode. Ultimately sending the bullet out of the musket.

RAMROD





THE PISTOL

During the Napoleonic Wars, many officers carried pistols.

To fire a pistol, you had to have a good flint. Seamless modern steel would be used to strike the threaded flint to create sparks. The sparks reacted with the gun powder and caused the pistol to fire.



THE CANNON ZONE

The cannon fired a four, six, eight, or twelve pound cast iron ball, depending on the size of its barrel. An artillery crew would be able to fire up to two or three shots per minute.

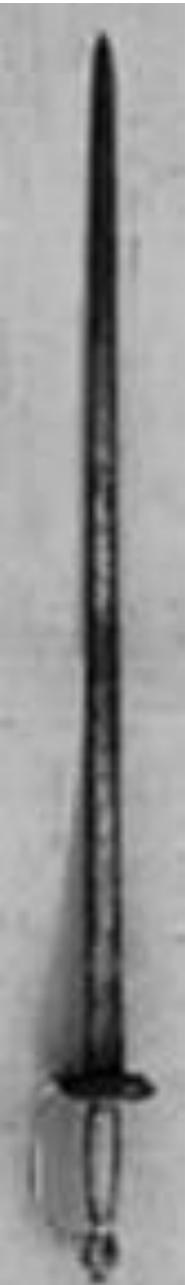


Sending cast iron balls into enemy forces. The range of the cannons could reach from 600 to 1800 yards.

THE SWORD

The sword was usually the weapon of choice for officers. Swords varied greatly in style from nation to nation and from unit to unit.

British infantry swords were generally straight bladed and were sharpened on both sides. This allowed a soldier to strike and enemy from both directions.





The pike was an extremely long weapon, carried by infantry. It was usually 10 to 14 feet in length. It had a wooden shaft with an iron or steel spearhead attached to the top. The shaft near the head was often supported with metal strips called cheeks.



THE PIKE



Cheeks 

The pike could exceed 22 feet in length. Although, this was very rare. It allowed the pike men (infantry soldiers) to draw their weapon toward their enemy to protect their swordsmen (picture). Placing the pike men in the center of the flank provided all around protection for the





QUICK

What do

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Remember

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QUESTIONS

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What was the maximum number of shots the musket could fire off in one minute?

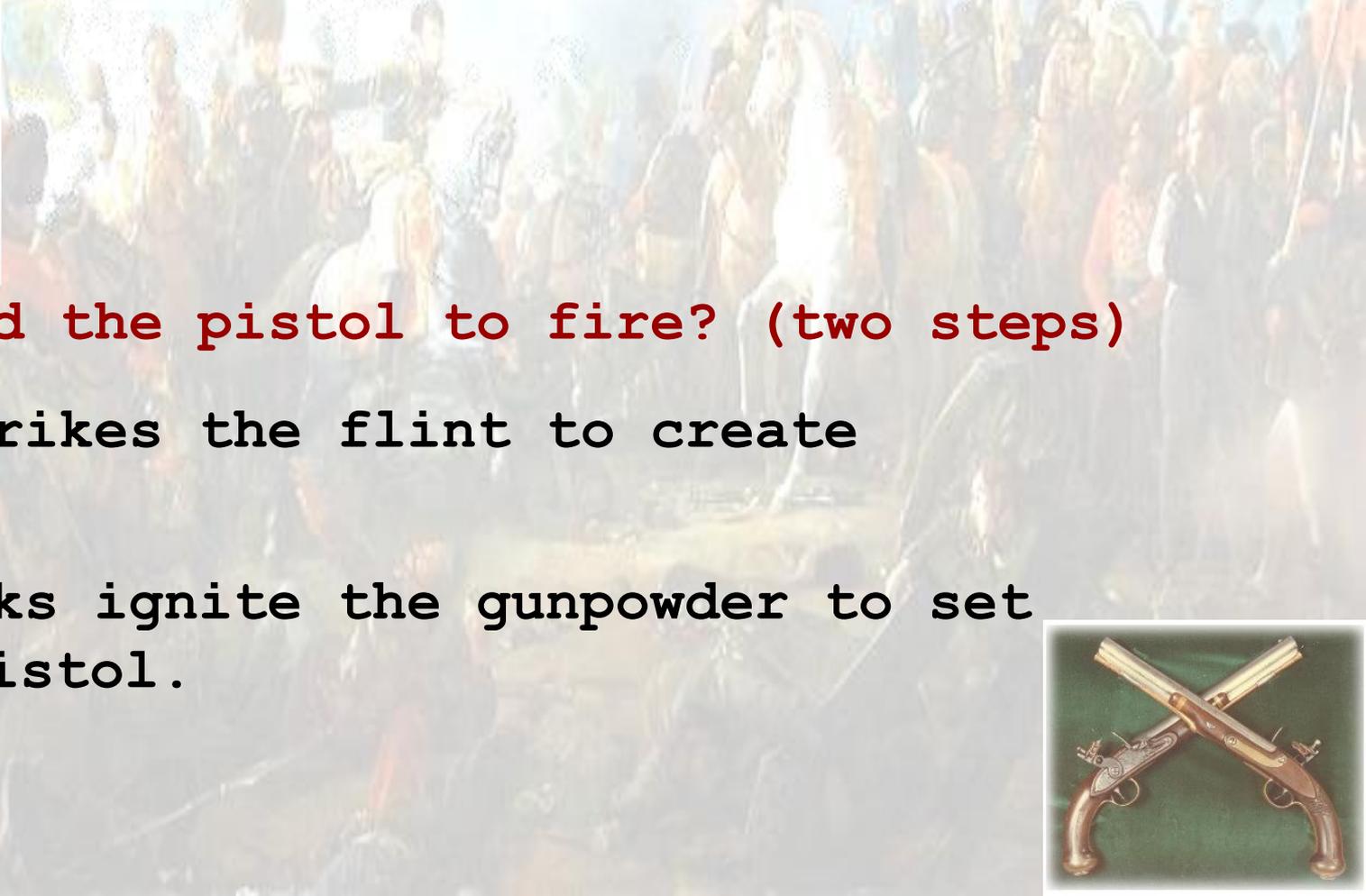
Three shots in one minute

The gun powder and bullet are shoved further down the barrel with a.....?

Ramrod



PISTOL QUESTIONS



What caused the pistol to fire? (two steps)

1. Metal strikes the flint to create sparks.
2. The sparks ignite the gunpowder to set off the pistol.



CANNON QUESTIONS

What are two sizes of cannon balls that the cannon would be able to fire?

6,8,or 12 pounds.

Approximately how far could a cannon ball be fired?

600 - 1800 Yards





SWORD QUESTION

What did the double-edged sword allow the soldiers to do?

Strike and enemy from both directions





The pike was usually how long in length?

10 - 14 feet



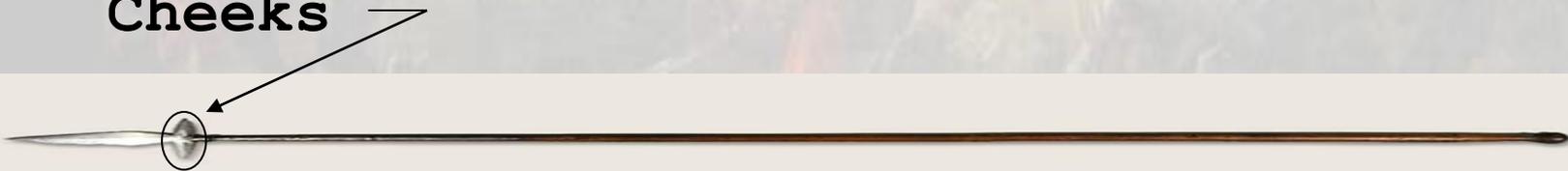
What is the maximum length a pike might be?

22 feet

The shaft near the head was often supported with metal strips called?



Cheeks



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