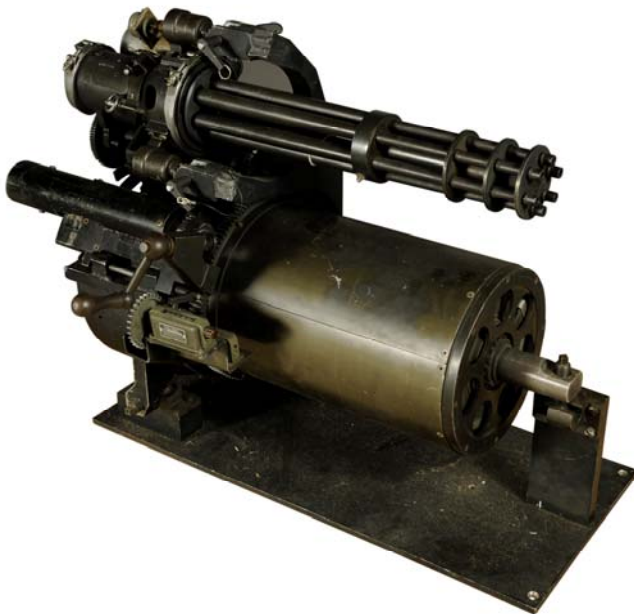


## General Electric 7.62 "Minigun" Rotary Machine Gun, 1972



Brought into the collections by George M. Chinn in 1978, this machine gun is a test model, serial number one, of a weapons system that General Electric developed for a number of both ground and air-based platforms. During the Vietnam War, a bank of three of these machine guns was mounted along the side of a Douglas AC-47. With a firing rate of 6,000 rounds per minute, each gun produced a steady stream of glowing tracers. Resembling fire falling from the sky at night, this configuration was nicknamed "Puff the Magic Dragon." Variants of this weapons system are still found in military aircraft.

*Donated by the U.S. Marine Corps, 1978.86.02*

War is not just a compilation of dates that represent a series of battles. "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)," an online exhibition that illustrates the personal stories of bravery, innovation, heartache and perseverance, provides evidence of the people and artifacts history books often neglect. To learn more about this item and others in the military collections of the Kentucky Historical Society, visit "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)."