

XM109 + G11 = ???

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I'm not a gun hobbyist, but I

I was looking at Barrett's latest, the XM109

http://www.strategypage.com/gallery/articles/military_photos_200481522.asp

And meanwhile I was also reading about the G11

<http://world.guns.ru/assault/as42-e.htm>

I was amazed by how elegant and cool each of these rifles is in its own way, and wondering why the unique design features of each couldn't be combined together for a superior long-range anti-materiel rifle.

The sealed design of G11 afforded by its caseless ammunition also gives the G11 a muzzle speed of over 3000fps, which is even faster than the XM109. Obviously it's for a much lighter bullet grain, but still, it shows that the seals for caseless make for higher muzzle velocity. This translates into flatter bullet trajectory for improved hit probability, over longer range, and with better kinetic impact. It also reduces the barrel length requirement, which can help to make the rifle more portable and more easily handled.

Why can't a long-range anti-materiel rifle be made that combines the features of the XM109 with the G11? This could be an economical alternative to the RPG or the TOW.

The complaint about anti-materiel/anti-tank rifles is that they can only penetrate lighter armour, and even then not at range. But if you're talking about a G11-style 3-shot burst salvo of penetrator rounds, this could increase the penetration capability. Electric ignition could be used to enable the extremely rapid rate of fire within the 3-shot burst sequence.

Caseless ammo would increase the amount of ammunition you can carry, relative to cased ammo. And one could carry far more of these rounds than one could carry RPGs, with the cost of such rounds being far less. And even though you couldn't fry a target like the RPG or can, you could still disable it, and from much longer range. TOW is obviously

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even longer-range, but with even greater expense. So the idea here would be an accomodation of affordability and long range with reasonable armor penetration.

The concern about cookoff of caseless ammo due to chamber overheating would be mitigated by the fact that long-range sniper rifles don't have to put out as high a volume of fire as closer-range assault rifles. With sniping, it's carefully aimed single shots. Therefore the heat buildup problem is much less likely to occur.

Another alternative to the G11 speediness-thru-caselessness, is the speediness of the AN-94, which is supposed to use some kind of clever cable-rigged loading mechanism.

This allows AN-94 to have a 2-shot burst capability which is technically at 1800 rounds/min.

Could the XM109 alternatively be modified with AN94's 2-round burst feature?

I was just musing about a fantasy sniper weapon, but one that was plausible and using today's available technologies --- not some railgun or other sci-fi vaporware. What are the inherent limitations, here?

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