

# Nobel No. 8 “Star” Blasting Cap Tin

Doug Miller



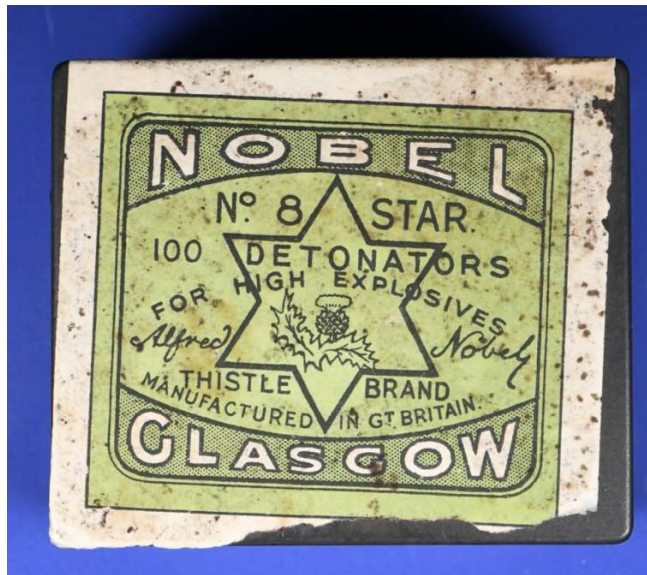
I first posted about this tin on the Blasting Cap Tin Collectors Face Book page on April 23, 2022, after I purchased it on eBay using the “Buy It Now” option. With a black top, an unmarked red bottom, and a paper label, the tin looks like a mismatch. In fact, when I bought my example, Steve Rush of Montrose, Colorado, had an identical tin for sale, and he noted in his listing that the “red painted bottom [is] likely not the actual tin’s bottom, [although] it matches the lid diameter well.” To his credit, Steve was being honest with his buyers about his doubts about the tin. After having found an identical tin listed by an Israeli seller, however, I became convinced that the tin was the real deal, doubly so when I found another example listed on WorthPoint.<sup>1</sup>

After I posted about this tin on the Blasting Cap Tin Collectors FB page, John Kynor, Sr., invited me to call him about the tin and I did so. John confirmed what I suspected about this tin, of which several examples are known. According to Jerusalem bomb squad experts that John knows, the tin is probably from the era when Palestine was a British protectorate (prior to 1948), although they had never seen one before John Kynor made them aware of it. They tracked down and investigated the owner of these tins and determined that he was simply a collector and was not in possession of any of the blasting caps that came with them. The seller of my tin, who is from Haifa, Israel, told me that he had acquired the tin from an old collector. He also told me that

he was sending me the one pictured in his eBay listing, suggesting that he has others. I wish this tin could tell its own story.

The Star on the tin, which is similar to the Israeli “Star of David,” is indicative of a stronger cap, and is not indigenous to Israel. The cap and tin were made in Great Britain and sold by Nobel of Glasgow, Scotland. These caps were probably sold throughout Great Britain and its colonies and protectorates.

I love the design of the tin. It is unique in its color and configuration. For me, its association with Israel and Palestine, makes it even more desirable. The tin was made for a No. 8 blasting cap. The tin is 3 inches long, 2 1/2 inches in width, and 2 inches tall. It has plain, red sides, and a paper label that wrapped around the tin from front to back. A remnant of the label suggests that the name **NOBEL** was printed in large, block type on at least one side of the paper label. Underneath the paper label, the top is a dark, gun-metal grey. Here are some detailed photos of the tin.





End Notes:

“RARE VINTAGE NOBEL GLASGOW 8 DETONATORS THISTLE BRAND TIN GREEN LABEL DAVID STAR,” <https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/vintage-nobel-glasgow-detonators-1929946736>, accessed April 24, 2022.