SECTION 29
LONG RANGE ROCKETS

Description

2901. The German A4 rocket, commonly known as the V2 is the best known of this of missile (Fig 29-1). The V2 was a 13-ton projectile and of this fuel comprised nine tons and the warhead one ton. Approximate performance figure where, range: 200 miles, duration of flight: 5 minutes, altitude reached: 50 miles, maximum velocity: 3500 mph, terminate velocity: 1500 mph. Some developments of V2 will undoubtedly have greater range.

Fig 29-1: German A4 Long Range Rocket - The V2

Fuzing

2902. The main fuzing will probably have impact but a self-destruction time device also be fitted.

Reconnaissance

2903. a. A long range rocket may sometime explode in the air scattering various components over a very wide area.

b. The warhead may separate from the rocket during flight and the two sections fall miles apart. The warhead will normally explode on impact but should it fail to do so will probably bury itself forming an irregular entry hole and splash crater.

If the complete rocket falls and fails to explode on impact, it will probably form a large splash crater with the warhead buried under part of the wreckage and with various components scattered over hundreds of yards.

Precaution

2904. a. Treat the warhead as a bomb of equivalent size.

b. A number of chemicals such as liquid oxygen, alcohol, and concentrated hydrogen peroxide, all of which have dangerous properties may be used in the operation of a long range rocket. Components should not be touched unless identified as harmless.

Action if Unexploded

2905. Report. If a long delay fuze may be fitted, evacuate the area.

2906-3000 Reserved.